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THE NEWSPAPER FOR DOVER AND THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES

Issue No 160  
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## FEWER PEOPLE CLAIMING JOBSEEKER'S ALLOWANCE

**WHAT'S ON & WATCH**  
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**LIVE IT UP:** Business Week editor Steve Loader on our great opportunity for entrepreneurs

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### WINDOW INTO WAR HERO'S LIFE

A Doverian victim of the First World War is commemorated in a pane of a specially-designed stained-glass window. Pilot Cecil Bromley is remembered in this collage created by Scouts and Brownies as part of the Dover War Memorial Project.

Youngsters worked with an artist to design and create the window commemorating six victims of The Great War in the build-up to Armistice Day.

• FULL STORY SEE PAGE 3

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

UNEMPLOYMENT in Dover has fallen again, according to the latest figures from the Office For National Statistics.

There were 1,914 people claiming Job-seeker's Allowance in September, a fall from more than 2,000 in the previous month.

This is the sixth lowest level of unemployment in the county, behind Ashford, Dartford, Tonbridge and Malling, Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells.

In Dover, the number of people back in work compared with the same period last year has fallen by more than 200 people, or 0.1 per cent, while 3 per cent of the town's population is out of work.

The worst-performing ward in the Dover district was Walmer, which saw a further six people lose their jobs, while Lydden and Temple Ewell saw a jump in unemployment of more than 11 per cent.

The best-performing ward was Eastry, which saw a fall in the number of people unemployed of more than 35 per cent, as 20 people had found new jobs.

Dover District Council's cabinet member for economy and special projects, Frederick Scales, said: "We are encouraged to see this drop in unemployment levels in Dover."

"We are continuing to work hard on our growth programme and to bring forward opportunities for employment, housing and regeneration."

"Although these remain difficult times for everyone, we continue to work with all partners to maximise opportunities, and we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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How Facebook friends fell out

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**RALLY:** Unite members come together to protest against plans to privatise the Port of Dover

# Protestors united in fight to prevent port privatisation

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

A TRADE-union rally last week saw activists march along Dover seafront in protest against the privatisation of the port.

The Unite union organised the event on Wednesday as part of an international week of action co-ordinated by the International Transport Federation (ITF).

The rally was in response to the privatisation of the port and also called for standardised terms and conditions for all dock and transport logistics workers.

### Banners

Dozens of protesters gathered on Snargate Street before marching across the A20 and along the seafront to the entrance of the Eastern Docks.

Once at the bottom of Jubilee Way, the activists unveiled banners and flags making motorists aware of their cause and encouraging them to sound their support.

Unite national officer Ron Webb said: "People want to make it absolutely clear that the privatisation of Dover docks would be a disaster.

"The UK is an island nation. We need a first-class sea port like Dover to be in public hands.

"There is too much at stake to leave the running of this vital link to Europe in the hands of those who will milk this national treasure for profits."

Unite's South East regional organiser Sharon Wentworth said: "This protest is to send the message that we won't tolerate this type of attack on workers' terms and conditions.

"If privatisation happens, there will be a race to the bottom, cutting costs for the benefit of the shareholders and not for those people in the jobs."

Some of the protesters had travelled from as far afield as Latvia to represent the ITF.

Janina Malinowska, assistant secretary of Inland Transport Sections for the ITF, said: "This action is one in a whole week of action planned across the globe and every day has a planned action.

"We take action from the very top level, at political levels, to the bottom at a local level and this action aims to show that the workers are united."

A Port of Dover spokesman said: "Other first-class UK sea-ports are not in public hands – in fact most major ports in the UK are privately owned, operated and very successful.

"Privatisation is required in order that there can be the necessary investment in the Port of Dover to grow the business, create jobs, new opportunities and value that can only be achieved in the private sector."

## Public urged to air views over housing plans

RESIDENTS are being urged from all quarters to voice their opinions on the Whitfield 'masterplan'.

The proposals for up to 5,750 new homes were put on display in Whitfield village hall on Friday and Saturday, October 8-9, and are now on show at the Dover District Council offices.

Council leader Paul Watkins, principal planning officer Adrian Fox and the Whitfield Action Group are all encouraging people to comment on the plans and use their input to influence them as much as they can.

The exhibition outlines the potential development proposals and the impact on the area if more than 5,000 new homes are built around the village.

The eight-week consultation period is being used to gauge public opinion on the project and to discover which of the six development options is the most favoured.

Mr Fox said: "It is all available online to view and comment on.

"Some people may have a phobia to put comments online, but it is worth having a look and I urge people to make comments. We want a discussion on the plans."

### Participate

Roger Knight from the Whitfield Action Group is urging residents to let the council know their opinion.

He said: "We're unhappy with the number of houses and think there is no justification for it.

"There is still the slimmest possibility some changes at the planning stages could be made.

"I encourage everyone to participate in the consultation to make their views known to the council."

The leader of Dover District Council, Paul Watkins, said: "It is absolutely vital that we plan for the future of Dover District.

"We continue to work hard on a committed growth programme and it is vital we broaden the range and type of housing that is on offer as we continue to move forward with regeneration and growth for the future.

"Consultation on this SPD is a key step forward, and ensures everyone is given the opportunity to be involved and comment on Whitfield's future."

For more information, visit the DDC website at [www.dover.gov.uk](http://www.dover.gov.uk) or phone 01304 872477.

## Dour trout situation improved

BROWN trouts have been reintroduced to the River Dour after they were lost when the river ran dry.

The Environment Agency has restocked the Dour at Temple Ewell with the fish following river-improvement work.

The brown trout population was lost when the river ran dry during a summer heatwave, but following river-restoration works, young fish have been placed back into the water.

The trout could not be reintroduced until the vegetation, planted as part of the work, had grown over the summer and provided a suitable habitat.

The fish fry – young animals that are too small to be caught and eaten – have been sourced locally and it is hoped that, once mature, will reproduce in the same stretch of the Dour.

The fry were used as part of an



**RE STOCKING:** Brown trout are reintroduced to the Dour after a dry spell killed them off

intriguing study into the genetics of trout in the Dour.

Fish from the Dour were harmlessly caught using electro-fishing, which

stuns the fish, making them easier to catch, and were also used in the genetics study.

In a painless operation, a scale is removed from the backs of the fish and sent to a laboratory for analysis.

The results of the survey will provide information about the trout in the river, including details of their origins.

Biodiversity specialist Tom Reid said: "Restocking the river using locally-caught fish is the best way of improving the biodiversity of the river.

"The fish are predators and will be able to live in the newly-restored river, where there are plants and the insects that they need for shelter and for food.

"We also hope that the people of Temple Ewell will enjoy seeing fish here again in this part of the river."

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# Children pay tribute to local war heroes

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

THE NINETIETH anniversary of the return of the Unknown Warrior through Dover on his way to Westminster Abbey is being marked by Scouts and Brownies.

The Dover War Memorial Project has received money from the Heritage Lottery fund to help young people in Kent and London learn about the Unknown Warrior and the significance of Remembrance.

Six casualties from the Great War who have no known grave will be studied by the youngsters, including members of the 3rd St Martins Scout group and the 8th Dover Brownies.

Doverians Tommy Eaves and Cecil Bromley, who are both commemorated on the town's war memorial, will be followed by the groups.

Mr Bromley was an early aviator and took part in flying experiments at Whitfield Aerodrome.

Just before the Great War broke out, he joined the Royal Flying Corps as an engineer. Just three months after he qualified as a pilot, he died when his plane was shot down.

Lieutenant Eaves was a master at St Martins Primary School, Dover. He was leading men at the Somme when he was killed by a shell.

He also founded the 3rd (St Martins) Dover Scouts, and Eaves Hall and Eaves Road, where the Scouts and Brownies meet, are named after him.

The Scout groups and the Brownies are mak-



**WINDOW ON HISTORY:** Scouts and Brownies are creating a stained-glass window in tribute to the fallen heroes

ing a stained glass window commemorating all six men. The finished window will be put on display at Westminster Abbey.

Committee member for the Scouts, Hazel Kelly, said: "It has been an absolutely wonderful opportunity for the children, and a really good history lesson."

"Jonathan was brilliant and pitched his talks to each age group individually. I'd like to thank The Dover War Memorial Project for getting us involved. We all thoroughly enjoyed it."

Artist Jonathan Boast said: "I've worked with over 100 Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, and Brownies to discover the stories of local men who lost their lives in the First World War."

"The children were so enthusiastic and keen to learn, and their response is clear in the designs they've created."

Maggie Stephenson-Knight from the Dover War Memorial Project said: "The young folk were great - it was so uplifting and enjoyable being with them."

## 'Now we need to reduce deficit'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE  
are already seeing encouraging signs for investment in the future.

"We are also working to develop further opportunities for skills training to ensure full advantage is taken locally as projects come on line."

"The work already undertaken, including having Growth Point Status and our Local Development Framework in place, has set firm foundations for growth and we are well placed for the future."

Across Kent, the number of people collecting Jobseeker's Allowance has fallen below 25,000. In September this year, 24,823 people were on the benefit, down by more than 300.

Compared with the same time in 2009, more than 3,000 people are back in work, and only 2.8 per cent of the county's population is without a job.

Nationally, the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance fell by more than 150,000 from August to September - a fall of 0.4 per cent.

Employment Minister Chris Grayling said: "Another rise in employment is a step in the right direction, but clearly our priority is to get the economy motor-ing again, reduce the deficit and make the UK an attractive place for investment to encourage growth."

"We are pressing ahead with radically overhauling the welfare system, with reassessments of those on incapacity benefits beginning this week."

"From early next year our Work Programme will come into force to ensure that long-term unemployed people and others who need it have tailored support to move them into work."

"Government has already taken steps to remove National Insurance for small employers, establish the regional growth fund and reduce corporation tax to make the UK attractive to overseas investors and drive up private-sector employment."

## Remembrance Day timetable

THE REMEMBRANCE Sunday service this year will mark 92 years since the Armistice was signed in 1918.

The event has been organised by Dover Town Council and the parade will assemble outside Marks & Spencer's in Biggin Street from 10.30am.

It will proceed to the War Memorial outside the Dover Town Council offices, where it will be joined by the Mayor of Dover, town councillors and civic guests.

Two minutes silence will be observed at 11am and the Last Post and Reveille will be played.

The Royal British Legion and representatives of service organisations will parade with their standards, led by the Sea Cadet band.

The Memorial service will be conducted by the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend David Ridley, before the parade marches to Market Square.

Mayor Susan Jones, accompanied by the civic party, will take the salute at St Mary's Church.

Priory Road will be closed from the Roundabout to the traffic lights during the service.

Members of the public are asked to leave the area to the right of the War memorial for children.

The deadline for individuals or organisations wanting to lay a wreath is 5pm on Tuesday, November 2.

## Underage drinking campaign a success

A SUMMER crackdown on underage drinking has been a success, according to Dover's new Community Safety Sergeant.

Sergeant Ian Swallow has hailed the summer operation, coordinated by the Community Safety Unit, a triumph as officers seized alcohol from underage drinkers.

Between mid-July and the end of September, almost 300 young people were checked in potentially antisocial situations, with more than 80 items of alcohol being seized and 10 arrests being made for public order offences, criminal damage or antisocial behaviour.

Sergeant Guy Thompson said: "The number of arrests made is down on 2009. It shows that the summer operation is working."

Sergeant Swallow added: "There is a set-in-stone process that happens when a young person is stopped in relation to anti-social behaviour or alcohol issues."

"The parents are contacted and sent a letter notifying them that their child is breaking the law and that action could be taken against them."

"We phone the parents and usually they come and pick their child up. It is usually a pretty good

response from the parents. It may be a shock that the police have got involved, or that their children are playing up, but we get a good response on the whole, and it brings it back to the front door and highlights to them what is going on."

While the summer operation has focused on underage drinkers and antisocial behaviour, Sergeant Thompson is reminding residents that it is the minority giving most young people a bad name.

He said: "It is not all young people involved in antisocial behaviour."

"Lots of young people are doing good works in youth clubs, the Scouts, in churches or with the YMCA."

For those young people who do break the law and drink under age, how they obtain alcohol is a concern for officers, and the police are reminding residents that buying alcohol for young people under 18 is a criminal offence.

Sergeant Thompson said: "We are still seizing alcohol from young people, and they must be getting it from somewhere."

"If you purchase alcohol for someone who is under age it is an offence, and you could get an £80 fixed penalty notice for doing so."

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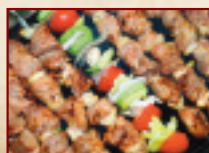
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**SELLING UP:** Artist Suzanne Lloyd, inset, is auctioning this picture, *The Sea At Kingsdown*, to fund cancer treatment

# Suzanne forced to raise cash for cancer therapy

A WOMAN with breast cancer who has been denied treatment that could prolong her life has set up an auction to try to raise funds to finance the aid she desperately needs.

Suzanne Lloyd, 43, from Deal, has been refused a course of radiotherapy currently banned by NICE, the rationing body, even though it could extend her life by several years.

Mrs Lloyd has advanced breast cancer which has spread to her liver, and her last hope is Selective Internal Radiation Therapy (SIRT), in which tiny radioactive beads are injected into the artery that supplies the cancer.

Doctors say that on its own the treatment, which costs £23,000 for a single dose, could give her at least an extra 14 months of life.

They also say this could be extended even further – possibly by two more years – as once the tumour has been reduced in size other treatments could be used successfully.

Despite doctors' recommendations, her local primary care trust, Eastern and Coastal Kent, has refused to fund it, so she has set up a fund-raising website to auction items including a week in a Cornish cottage,



■ BY NICK AMES

one of her paintings and a week in a France. NICE does not approve SIRT for advanced forms of breast cancer, even though it is paid for by 40 health trusts in Britain.

Mrs Lloyd, below, who lives with husband Peter, 49, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2001. She has stayed alive through chemotherapy combined with other treatments such as Avastin, which she funded herself, but the effectiveness of these treatments has declined.

Cancer specialists at Hammsmith Hospital in west London, where she receives her treatment, say that SIRT could significantly reduce the size of the tumours.

Professor Karol Sikora said: "I can see no other option but to recommend SIRT for Suzanne. It is very effective and she is an ideal candidate."

In a statement, the trust said: "The evidence for clinical effectiveness for SIRT for liver metastases following breast cancer is insufficient. We need to focus our limited resources on treatments where the evidence shows clear benefits."

• Contact [www.suzanne-lloyd-fund.org](http://www.suzanne-lloyd-fund.org) for further details of her efforts.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Greenway scheme begins

WORK on the River Dour Greenway has begun this week.

The announcement came from Kent Highway Services that Phase 1 of the scheme started on Monday.

The initiative has confirmed funding of £750,000 and is due for completion by the end of March next year.

It will provide improved pedestrian and cyclist access between Buckland Bridge and Park Place by Dover Town Hall and will help minimise the number of bicycles that use the one-way system and footpaths in this area.

Councillor Nigel Collor said: "My colleague Kit Smith and I are extremely grateful to Sustrans, the national sustainable-transport charity, and Kent County Council for keeping their funding in place for this financial year despite the present financial climate, and to both Dover District Council and Dover Pride for their valuable involvement."

### Chance to pick a free tree

A COUNTYWIDE scheme is giving everyone the chance to get up to 25 free trees.

Kent County Council's free-tree scheme is offering up to 25 native trees to anyone who is able to collect, plant and look after them.

The trees are two- to three-year-old whips that are no more than one metre tall when collected.

The closing date for the applications is Sunday, October 31, and the trees will be ready for collection at the beginning or December.

For more information, visit [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk).

### Pound-saver for lifesavers

DOVER lifeboat has received a healthy boost from a slimmer.

Jennifer Lowe, from Ashford, has raised money for the organisation by being sponsored to lose weight. Mrs Lowe's family and friends used a pounds-for-pounds system to help the dieter collect £250.

Her family turned up to hand over the cheque to coxswain Stuart Richardson after looking around the Dover lifeboat station and meeting all the crew.

Mr Richardson said: "I'd like to thank Mrs Lowe for not only the money but surprising me with another way to support the RNLI."

## World record attempt for polio awariness

DOVER Rotary Club has taken part in bid to plant a world-record number of crocuses to raise polio-awareness.

The volunteers planted the purple flowers to highlight the work that has been done combating the disease, as well as the work that still needs to be done.

Rotary member John Clayton said: "Over the last 20 years, Rotary International has been helping the World Health Organisation eradicate polio across the world and we have got



**PLANTERS:** Rotary Club members

down to the last few cases.

"There are now fewer cases of polio in the world than there were in some countries per year. We have planted

purple crocuses because when a child gets immunised, they have their finger dipped in purple ink to show they have received the jab.

"The crocuses cost 20 pence each, the same as an immunisation for a child.

"We are doing this to get publicity for the cause and we are hoping that there will be millions of crocuses in bloom across the country for Rotary Day on February 23.

"It is important to keep it in the public mind and we are hoping for a world record."

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# Miliband (Ed) is the man for us, insist members

ED MILIBAND's victory in the Labour leadership contest could spark a resurgence of support for the party in Shepway, ahead of next year's council elections, reckon local party members.

There is an increased sense of optimism among the district's Labour supporters, who lost their last district councillor in the 2005 elections. They have since failed to regain a foothold, finishing third or lower in polls.

Despite winning by the narrowest of margins against his older brother and front-runner David, Ed Miliband can encourage voters to rally to the Labour cause, activists believe.

Maureen Tomison, who stood for Labour in Folkestone and Hythe at the 2005 general election, and husband David Sandford both chose David Miliband as their first preference on the ballot but were happy to see Ed in place.

Mr Sandford told Yourshepway: "David had shown his mettle as Foreign Secretary when Maureen had an international problem and asked him to help.

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

"He responded in a way which was quite extraordinary for a busy senior minister. The issue was resolved in days and we were very impressed, so that tipped us in his favour."

Following his keynote speech to delegates, Ed Miliband was seen embracing Maureen live on television as he walked out of the hall.

Mr Sandford said: "When it comes to local elections, it's very important that Labour voters should have somewhere to put their vote, even if they're not going to win.

"If there isn't a Labour ticket, then nationally you can get a very distorted view of what people are saying."

The constituency's candidate in the May general election, Donald Worsley, said local membership had increased by 25 per cent since the leadership contest began.

He hopes the party will contest all 46 seats on Shepway council next year.

"If he [Ed] stays in the middle ground and is not radical enough, then we won't be electable," said Mr Worsley.



**HIGH HOPES:** Labour leader Ed Miliband and, below, party members Maureen Tomison and Donald Worsley



"I was more than happy with his speech because he's cleared the way for Labour to be honest that we should never have gone to war with Iraq, which will bring people who'd left back into the party.

"When the cuts come and people see that schools aren't being rebuilt, public transport is going to be affected and their jobs are on the line, they start to realise they need a party to defend them."

## Martial artists are put through paces

MEMBERS of a martial-arts club in Whitfield had a weapons masterclass with a Japanese jujitsu expert.

The Shim's Way Jujitsu Club hosted the training session with Master Phil Bradley on Monday, October 3.

Master Bradley put members of both Shim's Way Jujitsu and Dover and Lydd Karate Club through their paces.

Steve Pinfold, chief instructor of Shim's Way Jujitsu Club Sensei, said: "It was a great opportunity to train with Master Bradley and we hope to continue with weapons training in the future."

For details of Shim's Way Jujitsu Club, phone Steve Pinfold on 07968 527 013 or Neil Benton at Lydd Karate Club on 07707064200.

## Pothole work finds itself at an end

THE county council's pothole repair scheme closed last week after some £500,000 was spent improving Dover's road and pavement network.

The Find And Fix project was introduced to fill the large number of potholes following last winter's extreme weather.

However, work to renew paving slabs in Effingham Crescent got under way on Monday, partly-funded through KCC members' highways fund.

During half-term week, the length of Melbourne Avenue is to be resurfaced at a cost of almost £270,000.

Any potholes that do not have white markings should be reported to Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800 or at [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways).

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### PAUL STONE



**Q** Tell us a little about yourself

**A** I was born in Herne Bay, went to school there and have lived in the area most of my life. I have one brother. I have also lived and worked in South Africa for a number of years, gaining valuable experience of retail management and shopping-centre management.

While there, I worked in a department store much like BHS, eventually moving on to the management team of the shopping centre the store was based in. At the time the centre in Sandton was the largest in the southern hemisphere.

I am married and live in Ashford. I have been lucky to travel abroad and have seen some amazing countries from across Africa to Europe. I recently visited the Dubai Mall (for a real busman's holiday).

**Q** How did you become involved in retail management?

**A** When I left school I worked in a small newsagent as an assistant manager, then went on to manage stores with WH Smith and later with Victoria Wine and The Garden Centre Group. I also spent time in the manufacturing business working as a production controller at a company making remotely-piloted aircraft for the Ministry of Defence.

I then moved to Ashford to manage a shopping centre there for seven years and gained valuable experience which has helped in my role at Bouverie Place.

**Q** What is the history of Bouverie Place and how did you first become involved?

**A** The concept of Bouverie Place had been considered for many years and opened in 2007 after Warner Estate and the developers found common ground with a scheme that worked for all parties, including the local authority planning department and retailers.

I joined Warner Estate six months before the centre opened. It was a huge challenge and a career highlight to be involved during the latter stages of the development. Building a team of staff for security, administration and cleaning has been rewarding. Setting up contracts with the various service-providers and dealing with marketing initiatives was a priority.

**Q** How many and what kind of shops are at the centre?

**A** The centre is almost fully let, with more than 22 stores. We have a strong fashion element and of course the Asda store – all of these stores are well supported by a number of quality independent retailers and eateries. There is something for everyone and we are family-focused.

**Q** What impact do you think the new Primark will have?

**A** The Primark store will have a huge impact, not only on Bouverie Place but on Folkestone town centre and the area as a whole. We have already noticed a significant

increase in footfall and a number of tenants have expressed to me how their business has benefited from that extra footfall.

There has been great excitement during the development stage of the Primark store and I think it will be yet another catalyst for more investment in the town. The store has brought new jobs and encouraged visitors from other areas into the town.

**Q** How has Folkestone has coped with the recession?

**A** I think Folkestone has coped with the recession as well as any similar town. The centre has coped extremely well and footfall is actually up on last year, which is a good indicator of the confidence consumers have. I think the mix of tenancies we have at the centre has helped reduce the effects that the recession may have had elsewhere.

**Q** How would you compare your experience of working in South Africa with that of the UK?

**A** The daily routines are similar when you take into account the type of work that needs to be done. Learning to live in a new country with different cultural influences was interesting and teaches you a lot about yourself and the world we live in. South Africa has a progressive business community and is equal in professionalism in most respects to the UK.

Like the UK, if you work hard you reap the rewards of your efforts – and equally personal time is very important.

**Q&A**

The manager of Folkestone's Bouverie Place shopping centre talks to **James Alexandre** about how he came into the retail business, the impact of the new Primark store and working in South Africa



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## Moving tribute to road-crash victim

THE parents of a Lydd man who died in a road accident have paid tribute to him.

Andrew Bourne, 42, of Park Street, was driving an Astra on the A2070 Hamstreet bypass when it was involved in a collision with a Saxo.



**TRAGIC LOSS:**  
Andrew Bourne

In a statement, his parents said he was a "fantastic father, son, brother and friend" and would be sorely missed. The statement added: "We are sad to announce the untimely death of our beloved son, Andrew David Bourne, whose life was tragically taken... in the early evening of Monday, October 11, on the A2070.

"He leaves behind his two young children, Natasha, nine, and Joseph, six. He will be sorely missed by all. He was a fantastic father, son, brother and friend.

"The family respectfully request their privacy at this time so they may mourn their tragic loss. Details of the funeral will be released at a later date."

Police were called to the accident at 7.35pm. Mr Bourne was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the Saxo was taken to the William Harvey Hospital and later transferred to King's College Hospital, London. His condition is stable.

A 19-year-old female passenger was also taken to the William Harvey, where she is still being treated.

Police are appealing for witnesses to phone them on 01622 798538.

# Family come in from the cold after filing Warm Front claim

■ BY FLORENCE TENNENT

**AFTER** four years without hot water or central heating, a single mother has taken the firm behind a Government scheme to court.

When Kelly Isherwood, 36, bought her first home, a large property in Sellindge in 2006, she knew it would need a lot of work.

As a single mother with three children, the eldest only 10 years old and the younger two registered autistic, she applied for a Warm Front grant to install efficient central heating.

Warm Front targets fuel poverty in the UK by offering packages of up to £6,000 for insulation and heating to some of the most vulnerable, included the aged, disabled and those on benefits.

Ms Isherwood was accepted for the grant but after hearing nothing for eight months contacted the scheme, only to be told her application had been lost and she would have to reapply.

More than a year passed, during which time the house was damaged in the Folkestone earthquake.

Ms Isherwood said: "We had no hot water and no heating. We relied on blower-heaters and baths filled from the kettle. In one quarter alone, my electricity bill was £3,500. We felt we were being tortured. You couldn't just do the washing-up, you had to boil the kettle and wear rubber gloves to avoid being scalded."

Eaga, the company that administers Warm



**COURT ACTION:** Kelly Isherwood and two of her children

Front grants on behalf of the Government, will only pay for work done by approved partners, so to claim the £6,000 Ms Isherwood had to wait for it to get in touch.

Eventually, engineers were sent out, but they were unable to fit the appropriate heating and brought in a sub-contractor who swore constantly, said Ms Isherwood.

"You expect a bit of swearing, but I felt physically ill," she said. "He used the c-word in every sentence and made lewd comments that made me so uncomfortable I had to ask him to leave."

Again there was no word for six months and Ms Isherwood's family moved into a mobile home. In April 2009, another company did another technical survey and this time presented her with a two-page list of demands that needed to be fulfilled before the work could take place.

An old-fashioned sink would have to be removed; a 20-metre trench would have to be dug for the oil line; an additional toilet would need to be fitted for the workmen; and a tree under a preservation order would have to be trimmed, to name just a few of the requests.

This additional work was completed, but the installer then declined the job. The second set of contractors decided to move the location of the boiler and required a second trench to be dug.

Finally a date was set for the work: February 22. Having paid a contribution to the work, cleared the rooms and warned her children there would be strangers in the house, Ms Isherwood waited for the workmen to arrive.

When no one came, she contacted the company, which had cancelled and rebooked the work, without informing her. According to Warm Front records, the heating had been fitted.

Eventually, Ms Isherwood filed a claim with the courts for £20,000 – enough to cover the cost of the grant, the additional work and one year's electricity bill.

She contacted an independent workman, who fitted the heating in three weeks and on Thursday, September 30, switched on the heating in her home for the first time in four years.

An Eaga official said: "This Government-funded scheme provides heating and insulation grants for households on qualifying income and disability-related benefits.

"Since 2000 it has assisted more than 2.1 million households, helping make homes warmer and more affordable to heat.

"This case is subject to legal proceedings and it would be inappropriate for us to comment."

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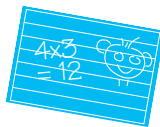
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## BREAK TIME



**PRESENTS:** Year 8 Brockhill student Ocean Yarney

## A shoe-in for pupils' Christmas appeal

STUDENTS at Brockhill Park Performing Arts College have been busy collecting, wrapping and packing more than 60 shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child appeal.

The largest festive project of its kind in the world, it is run by the charity Samaritan's Purse and last year more than 500,000 people across the UK and Ireland were involved, including many churches, schools and workplaces.

Children and adults alike wrapped and packed almost 1.2 million shoeboxes full of gifts and goodies, which were then sent to orphans and vulnerable children living in often-difficult circumstances overseas.

Brockhill spokeswoman Donna Hawkes said: "Our year 8 students are taking part in this amazing project as part of our international dimension at Brockhill."

"We feel it is important our students have an understanding of charity and others less fortunate than themselves."

# Centre's prize for getting adult learners into work

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

AN ADULT-learning centre in New Romney has won a national award for its achievements in customer care and tutor support.

The Romney Resource Centre was a winner at the national learndirect Achievement Awards, having won a regional prize in the summer.

The centre was recognised for going beyond the call of duty to help its learners find work. The centre hosts a Jobcentre Plus office, allowing it to refer unemployed people to learndirect.

It also provides recruitment workshops, covering interview tips and CV preparation to help learners looking for work.

### Interviews

Staff carry out in-depth interviews with them and then work to match local companies with local learners. This year, Romney Resource Centre has supported more than 100 unemployed people, a quarter of whom have already found work.

Centre manager Edna Delaney said: "We're very excited to have won. Kath and I have been working at RRC for over 10 years and we encourage our learners to take up as many of the services as possible."

"Our learners are like our guests and we want them to experience a cocktail of learning that will help them in their lives."

Learndirect chief executive Sarah Jones said: "The learndirect Achievement Awards

provide a great opportunity to celebrate the positive impact learning has on people and businesses throughout England and Wales.

"The national winners and highly-commended finalists have shown exceptional determination and have gone that extra mile to learn new skills, improve their qualifications or support others to achieve their goals."

"These finalists are an inspiration to millions of learners, support staff and businesses and truly deserve recognition. I hope their achievements will encourage others across England and Wales to change their lives through learning."

The nominees include learners who have overcome personal difficulties and gone on to find jobs or move up in their careers, as well as firms who have thrived as a result of improving the skills and motivation of their workforce through learndirect.

Ms Delaney will collect the prestigious award at a 'floating' awards ceremony onboard a boat in London on Friday (October 22).

Now in their fourth year, the learndirect Achievement Awards recognise those who are learning and the businesses training with the service, and the people and centres supporting them.

Learndirect is the Government's e-teaching organisation, set up to provide high-quality learning for those over the age of 16.

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For more information on how learndirect can help you improve your skills and get a qualification, go to [www.learndirect.co.uk](http://www.learndirect.co.uk) or phone 0800 101 901.



**HIGH LEARNERS:** Edna Delaney and Katharine Jones proudly show off the Romney Resource Centre's achievement award

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# I just want the truth, says 7/7 father

THE father of a victim of the 7/7 London bombings says he hopes the truth about his son's death might finally emerge.

An inquest has begun into the deaths of the 52 people killed in the 2005 suicide attacks on three tube trains and a bus.

Grahame Russell, from East Peckham, near Tonbridge, lost his son, Philip, 28, who was on the number 30 bus blown up in Tavistock Square.

Many families want a public inquiry and have questions over what the security services knew about the attacks and whether they could have been stopped.

Mr Russell said: "What I'd really like is the truth to come out, none of this smoke-screening that has gone on in the past.

"One has to take into account issues they may or may not be able to release, but the Official Secrets Act has been used as something to hide behind. We're trusting things will come out in the inquest that will say what happened and really tell the truth."

■ BY JENNA PUDELEK

There have been five official reports into the attacks, but none has looked at how the victims died.

Mr Russell and his wife Veronica have not yet attended the inquest, at the Royal Courts of Justice in London, but will be there when it examines events at Tavistock Square, early next year. The hearing is expected to last until March.

Footage and pictures of the chaotic aftermath of the bombings have already been shown. Witnesses who survived the attacks on Underground trains near Aldgate, Edgware Road and Russell Square stations and on the double-decker in Tavistock Square, near Kings Cross, will provide evidence. Members of the emergency services will also give their accounts of events.

"Stuff will come out that has never been heard before," Mr Russell said. "The problem is everyone tries to cover for themselves, not just the intelligence services. I think there

are issues that will emerge later down the road. Each day there will be something new."

The inquest is being held by Lady Justice Hallett, and Mr Russell said he had faith in her ability.

"The coroner managed to set a wide scope for the inquest, which is unusual, I have every faith she will handle it competently," he said.

As well as those killed, some 700 people were injured, many of them severely and permanently, when the four suicide bombers, who were all British men backed by al-Qaeda, detonated their devices.

Mr Russell's son, Philip, who worked as a finance manager for JP Morgan Asset Management and was living in Kennington, south London, was among 13 people who died on the number 30 bus.



DEADLY: Aftermath of the Tavistock Square bus explosion

## Long waits add to mental anguish

CHILDREN and young people with mental health problems are being forced to wait eight months to start treatment – with some forced to wait double that time.

Now Kent MP Greg Clark has asked NHS chiefs to look into the issue as a "matter of urgency".

The Conservative minister said: "The danger is that if the youngsters do not receive timely help, their problems can escalate and become much more serious. Just like any other health problem, it is very important to receive prompt treatment," he said.

"Unfortunately, mental health is a hidden illness and has, all too often, been overlooked in the past – this cannot continue."

The NHS West Kent Primary Care Trust announced this month that a multi-million-pound centre to care for children and young people with severe mental health problems from across the county was set to open early next year. Winthrop Hall, in Staplehurst, will provide inpatient treatment as well as a 24-hour specialist, community-based service.

But Mr Clark – who is minister for decentralisation and also the MP for Tunbridge Wells – remained unconvinced that enough was being done for children suffering from mild to moderate mental health problems.

He said: "This new centre is extremely welcome. However, I see it as just the first step to improving mental health services for young people. I remain concerned that those

suffering from less severe problems, who don't need inpatient care, are still having to wait too long for treatment and I have asked the PCT to look at this as a matter of urgency."

A spokeswoman for Mr Clark said it had been found that one young person had waited 16 months from the first referral from their GP to the start of treatment. She said generally the waiting time was about eight months, which was "agonisingly slow for the families".

Long waiting times are affecting children and young people with a range of conditions such as eating disorders, self-harm, phobias and obsessive compulsive disorders, she said.

Julia Ross, the West Kent trust's executive lead for mental health, said: "We welcome Mr Clark's interest and are working with him as we continue to improve services for young people with mental health issues."

Meanwhile, £6 million is being spent transforming Winthrop Hall, a former drug-rehabilitation centre, to provide Kent's first dedicated children's mental health centre, which means youngsters will no longer have to travel to London for treatment.

The county's three primary care trusts, NHS West Kent, NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent and NHS Medway, have commissioned South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, which specialises in mental health, to provide the service.



URGENCY: MP Greg Clark



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## YOUR LETTERS

### Look to the sun for energy... and jobs

When I said in a TV debate with Nigel Farage that the UK had the best offshore wind resources of any country in Europe and that there was no reason these should not be exploited, he had no answer.

Since Dungeness has been dropped from the Government's preferred list of nuclear sites, Mr Farage's promotion of a Dungeness C station has already failed.

But there is a more serious problem in the claims made by Mr Farage. Wind farms obtain money from the Government when they are operating, not before.

The major energy companies have told the Government they want it to pay for new nuclear power stations – the Government has refused.

So even if the Dungeness site were selected for a new nuclear power station, apparently no one would wish to pay for it to be built.

Wind farms like the new one off Thanet and the proposed London Array will create jobs, but the efficiency of the technology means there will be very few of them.

However, if we had a national programme of improving insulation for all buildings and installing microgeneration technologies (solar water-heating/solar PV panels) on homes and buildings, this would generate employment in every district in Kent and indeed in the UK as a whole.

If Mr Farage is serious about obtaining more employment in the energy sector, then why has he failed to advocate energy efficiency and safe, renewable-energy technologies?

And nuclear is more expensive than any other energy technology because nuclear waste has to be stored for up to 250,000 years.

Steve Dawe  
Kent Green Party

### Views on finance are from another planet

I was surprised to learn that Mike Bryant (last week's letters) lives in Dover. After reading his letter on the banking situation, I thought he might have come from the planet Zog.

"The engine room which creates wealth for everyone."

Tell that, Mr Bryant, to those who lose their jobs in the public sector as the Government attempts to clear up the mess that the bankers have made.

Tell that to the deserving poor who worry about their benefits being cut.

I neglected to mention in my blog anything about bankers' arrogance or their selective amnesia or, indeed, their ignorance.

Yes, their ignorance. When Fred the Shred and his fellow fat cats appeared before a Commons Select Committee, they were asked if any of them had qualifications to run a

## your blogger

Simon Robinson covers up his youthful good looks and adopts the 'gringo' look for charity...



### Paying lip service to 'Movember' movement

NEXT month hundreds of thousands of men will set their facial hair free for charity.

The four-week Movember fund-raiser, which takes its name from the fusion of 'Mo', a slang term for moustache, and November, the month, will see the oft-ridiculed 'tache make a rousing comeback on the top lips of proud participants around the world.

And not a moment too soon, either. For the moustache is at real risk of going into extinction.

The disgraceful descent of the top-lip turf began in the 90s and has seen thousands of moustache-wearing men axe their wirey whiskers.

Sadly, these days the noble moustache is misunderstood and utterly under-represented.

But it wasn't always the case. The heady days of the 80s saw bigshots such as Tom Selleck and Des Lynam champion the cause.

Liverpool FC legend Mark Lawrenson was one of a plethora of football pros who rocked a thick 'tache throughout the decade.

Graeme Souness, Terry McDermott, Chris Kamara, Ruud Gullit and David Seaman were also in the under-nose-combing club.

Now Lawrenson, retired, 'tacheless and redundant, is reduced to a role of 'smug know-it-all pundit' (read

'git') on Match of the Day. It could have all been very different had you maintained the moustache, Lawro.

So where did it all go wrong?

I blame the rise of male grooming in the 90s. Clean-cut celebrities like David Beckham promoted a waxed, moisturising metrosexual image of man.

This hair-gelled, Lynx-reeking ideal all but ended the glorious golden era of the moustache.

But thanks to the rise of the Movember movement, the 'tache is making a comeback, albeit for only 30 days a year.

Last year, more than 250,000 entrants across the globe took part in the charity event, raising £26 million for various cancer charities.

Movember 2010 looks like drawing more moustache-missing men to the cause.

So you can expect to see 'taches wherever you turn.

Your bank manager could be sporting the 'handlebar'. Your bus-driver could opt for the 'gringo'. Admittedly, the 'Hitler' is less likely to make a resurgence, but every movement – including the moustache – is allowed a blot on its copybook, surely?

I am proud to say that I will be among the Movember fund-raisers and have already committed to a somewhat unkempt moustached 'look', which my loved ones despise. To sponsor me, please visit [www.justgiving.com/KOSmovember](http://www.justgiving.com/KOSmovember).

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, Dave Mairs, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above.

If you want to be the next blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor.

And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to [www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk).

high-street bank. Not one hand went up.

There is an adage that Mr Bryant should heed. When in a hole, stop digging.

Just enjoy your mega salary (just guessing) while the rest of us suffer as a result of the mess the bankers have made.

Ian MacMillan  
Ash

### Coalition is showing us its true colours

Now the nuptials are but a distant memory and the honeymoon well over, the country can clearly see the true hollowness of this Coalition Government.

For the Liberal Democrats, their marriage of convenience was founded in the Land of Broken Promises.

Broken promises to protect the weak, the vulnerable and the disabled from the ravages of real cuts in benefits and services.

Broken promises to stop Trident and to give an amnesty to illegal immigrants.

Above all, broken promises to fight to the death rises in tuition fees for the hundreds of thousands of students who believed in their sincerity and conviction prior to the general election.

For the Conservatives, their vows of fidelity to the British public could have been written by JM Barrie himself in an essay on Never Never Land.

Never tell the truth about cuts in school-funding or hospital budgets when white lies make much better soundbites.

Never tell the electorate the truth on cuts in front-line services such as the police, the armed forces, fire and rescue when straightforward deception is far better than spin.

And Never Never tell the electorate the truth on planned cuts in benefits to the middle classes such as child benefit when lying is the only way to win an election if all else is doomed to failure.

Epousing family values and good housekeeping may make the faithful stand up and applaud at party conferences, but as any philandering celebrity well knows they will be found out in the end when the applause dies down.

In the Coalition's case it won't need a Woodward or Bernstein from the Washington Post or one of Coulson's snoopers or hackers from the News of the World to expose Cameron and Clegg's infidelities on the British public – they are becoming more painful to see day by day.

The Coalition's apologists George Osborne and Vince Cable may strive vainly to defend the indefensible, and make tearing up their party's manifesto commitments an act of great national altruism, but truth and honesty in politics will win out in the end.

Lying to your spouse may on occasions save you from the divorce courts, but betraying the electorate won't save you from the

guillotine at election time.

Donald Worsley  
Folkestone and Hythe Labour Party

### Rita needs to expand knowledge on schools

In reply to a recent letter from Rita Grootendorst headlined 'Education system has been wrecked':

She states "Grammar schools were for intellectually able kids, comprehensives were for those less academically able".

Just to enlighten her, 90 per cent of pupils in England attend comprehensive schools. Education in this country (11-16) became comprehensive in the 60s and 70s under both Tory and Labour governments (with the exception of three authorities).

The comprehensive system replaced the tripartite one initiated by the 1944 Education Act.

As the word 'comprehensive' implies, these schools accommodate pupils of all abilities.

Regarding her comments on overseas students:

The British education system is admired worldwide and we welcome genuine students from abroad. However, the fact they choose to come here for their education has never guaranteed them work in this country.

There needs to be a tightening-up of foreign students applying to study here, as sadly this has been open to abuse by bogus applicants

who use the system to gain access as a way of remaining here.

One example is of a Chinese 'student' who was registered with three universities but was in fact running illegal brothels.

Doreen McCormack  
Hythe

### Sholden housing plans unacceptable

The plans for a mass of homes in the village of Sholden are not acceptable on any level.

As well as the peace and quiet of a village being shattered and an overloaded transport network being further stretched, there is just no need for new houses any more.

Don't these developers realise there is no money out there to buy them?

The property market is dead and unlikely to recover for a long time.

Miles Burgess  
Deal

### No justification at all for 500 new homes

The idea Deal and its surroundings needs another 500 homes is ridiculous.

No one wants them – not the local MP, the local parish councils, the town council or any of the residents.

So why are they being built?

There is absolutely no justification for these proposals.

All they will do is sit empty for years and become a target for vandals.

Keith Booth  
Deal

### If only things did go down the drain

At the Communities Committee meeting at Deal Town Hall on Monday, October 11, district and county councillor Kit Smith made a presentation on the dirty drains of Deal.

It can be summed up in a few words: 'Fair words but no action'.

This gives no comfort to those citizens whose homes suffered in the flash-floods on Friday, August 13.

The rest of us will feel the results of this deliberate neglect when we have to renew our house and contents insurance.

Deryck Murray  
Deal

### I'm onboard for the high-speed rail stop

The call for a high-speed train service to stop at Deal and Sandwich is one that I would like to echo.

At present trains run empty from the depot at Ramsgate to their starting point in Dover, so it would not inconvenience anyone.

It seems such a common-sense idea that I am surprised it was not adopted when the service was first put into operation.

Brian Morton  
Sandwich

## Guides preparing to celebrate 100 years

DOVER Museum is hosting an activity day next week as part of the centenary celebrations for Girl Guiding in the town.

On Monday, October 25, the day of events will run as part of the new exhibition, Be Prepared, which marks 100 years of Rainbows, Brownies and Girl Guides in and around Dover.

There will be a range of activities on offer, including word search based on the exhibition and the opportunity to explore Dover Museum and the new Be Prepared exhibition among others.

The fun day runs from 10am-4pm and there will be no additional charges, although the standard admission prices to the museum will apply.

For more information, you can phone 01304 201066; alternatively, visit [www.dovermuseum.co.uk](http://www.dovermuseum.co.uk).

## Ferry giant docking at snowboard show

CROSS-Channel giant SeaFrance is offering tickets to this week's Ski and Snowboard Show in London's Olympia Exhibition centre, where there will be the SeaFrance Café Bar.

There are several competitions lined up this year, including the grand prize of a ski holiday in France with an overnight break on the way.

At the bar, there will be a snow-chain time-trial with a daily prize for the fastest fitter and an overall prize for the person topping the leaderboard.

The show runs from today until Sunday. For more information, visit [www.seafranceski.com](http://www.seafranceski.com)

# Sandgate hero crops up in book on US independence

■ BY NICK AMES

A MILITARY hero from Folkestone immortalised in verse finds himself up against an iconic American revolutionary, also the subject of an epic poem, in the latest No 1 best-seller by a top historical writer.

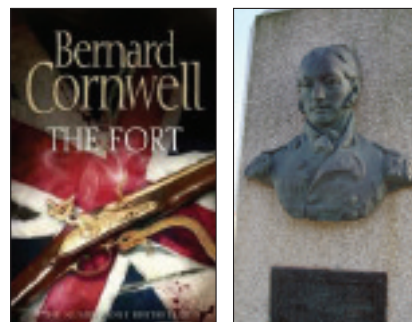
Bernard Cornwell is most famous for creating 19th-century British soldier Richard Sharpe – played on TV by Sean Bean – but also the subject of numerous novels. He has also written about King Arthur and the Viking invasion.

His latest work *The Fort* is the story of an engagement between British and American military in the War of Independence when Sir John Moore, whose statue is on the seafront in Sandgate, finds himself up against Paul Revere, whose ride is meant to have alerted the US rebels to British redcoats on the march.

In fact he was one of many who raised the alarm – and he wasn't the most successful.

Cornwell makes Revere a not too pleasant character, whereas Moore is very sympathetically portrayed.

The story tells how on August 14, 1779, an American fleet, including a 32-gun frigate, the entire Massachusetts Navy and 14 transports, was sunk or captured by a British squadron in Penobscot Bay. It is now regarded as the second biggest US naval catastrophe after



**HISTORIC:** Cornwell's new book and Moore in Sandgate

Pearl Harbor – 162 years later. It brought to end a poorly-led and equipped expedition that had set out from Boston just 26 days earlier in an attempt to defeat a smaller number of Highland infantry who had built a fort at present-day Castine in Massachusetts.

In the book, Cornwell tells how Americans Commodore Dudley Saltonstall and General Solomon Lovell could not agree as to whether ships should first attack the blockading ships or the militia should assault the fort, bringing about their defeat.

Meanwhile, among the garrison is a young Lt Moore – a bit eager for action and impetuous – but highly thought of by his superiors.

He even gets closest in the novel to a love

interest, a young American woman called Beth whose brother is among the rebels.

But American readers have been surprised at the characterisation of the iconic Revere, the expedition's artillery commander, as petulant, insubordinate, selfish and incompetent.

As the American forces retreat up the Penobscot River, Revere refused an order from his commander to rescue the crew of a schooner under attack by a British ship.

In fact, Revere was also court-martialed but after several delays finally acquitted in 1782. He owes much of his fame to poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, whose epic Paul Revere's Ride starts:

*Listen my children and you shall hear  
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,  
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;  
Hardly a man is now alive  
Who remembers that famous day and year?*

Meanwhile, Sir John Moore, who gave his name to Folkestone's Army barracks, has been recognised as a great military reformer and credited with the invention of the rifle regiments who did so much to win the Napoleonic War, in which he died.

He is also immortalised in verse by Charles Wolfe, who wrote the Burial of Sir John Moore after Corunna, which concludes:

*Slowly and sadly we laid him down,  
From the field of his fame fresh and gory;  
We carved not a line, and we raised not a stone,  
But we left him alone with his glory.*

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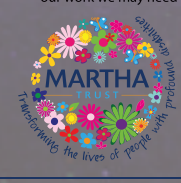
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Saturday 23rd October

### Captain Mildred

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 30th October

### DJ Ickee

### Halloween Party

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,  
Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 30th October

### Purity

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Thursday 4th November

### On The Run

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street,  
Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 5th November

### Delay Room

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 6th November

### Radio Riot

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,  
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Saturday 6th November

### Hard Rose Blues Band

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Thursday 11th November

### Sarah Banks in Caberet

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street,  
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# County's chronic pain-relief divide

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

PATIENTS suffering from chronic pain conditions have been warned they face discrimination depending on what side of the county they live.

While those in east Kent have access to a range of services close to their homes, those in the west are often required to travel miles to receive the help they need.

The matter was discussed by Kent County Council's health overview and scrutiny committee, when it was revealed that some NHS West Kent patients have to access services as far away as the UCL hospital in central London.

Neither Maidstone Hospital nor Darent Valley Hospital has facilities for dealing with chronic pain, whereas all three of NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's main hospitals provide some sort of service in addition to several other smaller clinics.

Lib Dem councillor Dan Daley (Maidstone Central) told the meeting: "The difference between the delivery in the east and west shows up more of a discrimination for the population because the numbers of pain opportunities in east Kent are many, whereas in west Kent they are few. There's nothing for people in Maidstone, yet we've had promise after promise and I'm disappointed to see it's still under discussion."

Sufferers of chronic pain in Maidstone have the option of attending clinics at Sevenoaks Hospital or Pembury Hospital in Tunbridge Wells, but Cllr Daley said both were still too far away for people in agony to travel to.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust is undertaking an audit to determine the potential level of demand for a more local pain management pro-

gramme. Cllr Daley added: "I've recently had to become involved in pain management and have had to make frequent trips to Guy's Hospital [in south-east London] and I don't think that's a very good idea."

"If NHS West Kent can't do better than this, and much more quickly than this, then I think it's very sad."

According to the Chief Medical Officer's report of 2008, repeated surveys show chronic pain – including severe headaches, back problems and arthritis – is two or three times more common now than 40 years ago.

Nationally, there are 7.8 million people living with chronic pain, with three in ten Kent residents having experienced it in the last year.

Dr Jon Norman, a consultant anaesthetist and pain medicine specialist at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, revealed there will be no room for a chronic pain clinic at Maidstone until July, next year, at the earliest.

He added that while there was a lack of facilities in some parts of the west, patients still have access to a good service and waiting times have been reduced dramatically.

He told Cllr Daley: "The situation is not ideal, but it's an awful lot better than it was and better than large swathes of the country."

"We want to continue moving in the right direction but there are no guarantees about funding. It's very easy to sit there and tell me something needs to be done, but someone needs to give us the investment."

**PAIN:** But access to relief depends on where you live



## Enjoy the autumn festivities but behave yourselves, warn police

POLICE are gearing up for the autumnal celebrations of Halloween and Guy Fawkes Night with two new campaigns.

Officers aim to maintain the community- and family-orientated fun associated with the events and to cut down the antisocial behaviour that could taint the festivities.

Sergeant Guy Thompson said: "Halloween is a time for people to enjoy themselves and it is a great time for the community to come together and for families to go out trick-or-treating."

"Sadly, some people are not so community-orientated."

To help combat antisocial behaviour over this period, there will be two operations designed to maintain the family and community atmosphere.

Sergeant Ian Swallow said: "We are focussing on the Halloween and Firework Night period, which will run from the weekend of Friday and Saturday, October 22-23, through to the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, November 6-7, and we have two campaigns running – one for Halloween and one for Bonfire Night."

During the Halloween period, Kent Police have produced a series of posters and stickers, available through neighbourhood policing teams and KCC wardens, stating that

the homeowner does not want to be visited by trick-or-treaters. Sergeant Swallow said: "The message to the community is to enjoy the period responsibly. Local school and Kent Fire and Rescue Service have been working in partnership with the Community Safety Partnership to help get this message across."

Kent Police are looking for a similar success to last year during the Firework Night celebrations and will be repeating the same strategy.

Sergeant Swallow said: "We will be giving out further information about where to go for further support and notice that shops will not sell fireworks to under-18s."

"We are giving a warning to those who may be irresponsible and conduct antisocial behaviour that it will not be tolerated."

"On the weekends of October 22-23 through to November 5-6, there will be a dedicated patrolling by PCs, PCSOs and KCC wardens in a bid to tackle antisocial behaviour."

"We have the same resources as last year, which appeared to work well, and it should be a family event."

"We also want to issue a reminder that if you are under 18, it is an offence to be in possession of a firework, however big or small."



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# Calling all our young chefs...

ASPIRING young chefs will be tempting taste buds as they compete in the Kent Young Chef Award 2010.



**JULIE MONKMAN**

Organised by Produced In Kent, the competition gives secondary-school students the chance to flex their culinary muscles.

By designing a main-course recipe for two people, created from local and seasonal produce, two lucky winners will be cooking at a very special event.

Julie Monkman, manager of Produced In Kent, said the competition targeted secondary-school children to capture their imaginations and prompt an early interest in cooking.

"We had a great response last year, with 184 entries from 47 schools," she said. "We felt it

was fantastic for a first year and this year we needed to find a way to make it bigger and better. Because of the success of the first event, we've got more sponsors on board, which is good. It has meant we are able to do a bit more in terms of prizes and our ability to promote the contest through more channels."

A winner will be chosen from each age group – years seven to eight and years nine to 11 – and the two victors will have the chance to help design the menu for a charity dinner, to be held in January in aid of Kent Air Ambulance.

They will cook on the night alongside Claire Wood, head chef at Woods Restaurant in Tunbridge Wells, one of the award's sponsors.

"We think it's a fantastic idea and a great prize for two winners to get involved to that extent. It's an example of how we've developed the competition," Ms Monkman said.

"We decided to add a little incentive, because

what we really need to make it successful is for teachers to get on board.

"We found that last year, when teachers got involved, we got really great entries and teachers came along to the final cook-off."

"The school that submits the most entries will get two tickets for the charity dinner."

Although interest in healthy eating and the provenance of food has increased, Produced In Kent is still keen to promote the message that buying locally and seasonally is best.

"Supermarkets have created a situation where people can get hold of whatever they want at any time of year, even strawberries in winter. Supermarkets will say they are meeting demand, but we say let's go back to eating locally and seasonally."

Entries for the Kent Young Chef Award must be received before Friday, October 29.

Entry forms, recipe criteria and rules can be found online at [www.producedinkent.co.uk](http://www.producedinkent.co.uk).

## Tuition-fee hikes 'risk generation of wasted talent'

REMOVING the cap on university tuition fees could "create a generation of wasted talent" and push out students from middle-class families.

Representatives at some of the county's universities said they were shocked at Lord Browne's report, which proposed radical reform of the system and said the right to education needed to be protected. Plans include abolishing the £3,290-a-year cap on tuition fees, which could lead to top universities charging up to £20,000 a year.

Despite recommendations by Lord Browne that a levy should be paid by those who charge more than £6,000, Lauren Crowley, vice-president (Education) of Kent Union, the student voice for the University of Kent, said this would not stop some putting up fees.

"Oxbridge and the Russell Group universities will put their fees up to the top end of the scale," she said. "Kent will have to make changes to keep up its reputation."

"If changes come in, students will be leaving university with at least £35,000 debt in top institutions," she said. "At the moment the average is £20,000-£25,000. The middle classes are the ones who would be hit."

"Poorer families are quite well looked after, but students from middle-class backgrounds are £5,000 more in debt."

She said Kent students would be joining the National Union of Students (NUS) and the University and College Union (UCU) for a national Fund Our Future demonstration on Wednesday, November 10.

### Deterrent

Other recommendations are for the interest rate on loans, which is currently 1.5 per cent, to rise to inflation plus 2.2 per cent; that all students are eligible for flat-rate living-cost loans of £3,750; and unpaid students debts are written off after 30 years instead of 25.

Another proposal is that students would not start repaying their debt until their earnings reached £21,000, instead of the current £15,000.

If Government accepts the recommendations, they could be introduced from 2012.

Professor Jan Druker, senior pro-vice-chancellor of Canterbury Christ Church University, said it would be hard to avoid increasing fees if the review removed most of the teaching fund, as expected.

"A rise from £3,290 a year to £6,000 is likely to hit families very hard," she said.

"We have encouraged students who may not have traditionally had the opportunity or confidence to continue onto higher education to realise their dreams. A rise in fees may be a deterrent to those students."

Professor Elaine Thomas, vice-chancellor of the University of the Creative Arts, which has campuses in Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester, said UCA had mixed views.

"In the current economic climate, a review of higher-education funding is necessary, and raising tuition fees represents the best way forward," she said.

"However, we must make certain that the increased cost to students and families does not stop talented people from going to university."

"Mechanisms must be put in place to enable students to study at the institution of their choice, otherwise I fear we could create a generation of wasted talent."

The vice-chancellor of the University of Kent, Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow, said increased graduate contribution was inevitable: "Prices have to be seen in the light of expected massive cuts in the teaching grant to universities which subsidise students."



**LAUREN CROWLEY**



# move 'n' smooth

## Pedal Your Way to 5-a-Day

Move 'n' Smooth is the award winning health promotion concept that promotes healthy eating, physical exercise and environmental awareness in a unique fun and memorable way.

This year clients have included, Radio1, RBS, Greenpeace, The National Trust, Heart FM, The NHS, Change4life and numerous educational agencies including many Universities and Primary and Secondary Schools.

Working with events organisers and healthy school's coordinators, Move 'n' Smooth offer a complete events package that includes staff and all ingredients, and can present a range of activities and tailored workshops, developed by a panel of health and education professionals or just simply attend your event with our unique human powered fruit smoothie maker to provide a fully staffed interactive and fun, eco-healthy experience.

The Move 'n' Smooth experience can be used for company well-being events, educational health and science programmes, Green issues, fund-raising and much, much more.

We are now taking bookings for 2011 so why not book us for your event now!



For more information please contact:  
[www.movensmooth.com](http://www.movensmooth.com)  
or call us on 07918 166947

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The Social Network lifts the lid on the internet phenomenon  
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## Try something new with flavour of Med

### ■ Don Giovanni

DON Giovanni is one of the leading Italian restaurants in east Kent and is a great place to try if diners want a little Mediterranean experience.

Close to the Leas and the seafront in Folkestone, it is a warm and cosy venue with a Latin ambience, which is much appreciated

by its many loyal and discerning customers.

New features of the popular eatery include a special culinary/regional menu which is available every month, Sundays-Thursdays. This is a specially-prepared menu from one selected area of Italy, so diners can become aware of the tastes that exist across the country, which has an international reputation for culinary excellence.

A selection of chef specials are available every day, including fish and pasta dishes. The restaurant is still continuing with its

year-round popular dishes, which include excellent fish choices such as grilled sardines served on a bed of lemons as a starter.

The chef is not afraid to experiment with his recipes, and that is one reason that variety continues to be the spice of life at Don Giovanni.

The venue is open from noon to 2.30pm, and 6.30pm to 10.30pm Monday-Saturday, and 6.30pm to 10pm on Sundays.

**Don Giovanni, 18 Bouverie Road West, Folkestone**  
Telephone 01303 850962

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Every other Tuesday  
£100 Cash Prize

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set 3 course menu  
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Every other Wednesday

Refer to website for full details

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# out guide



To advertise in the next eating out guide, please phone **01303 817150**

and benefit from downloadable offer vouchers and display your menu online!

## Fine dining at a fine price

### ■ Martins

MARTINS at Boughton is now open Monday evenings due to popular demand

The restaurant is celebrating its 23rd year in the quaint village of Boughton, where Paul and Julie's excellent food, friendly service and great value promise are proving successful than ever.

Martins, which is one of Kent's longest running restaurant, is serving up an array of delicious dishes each month at a special offer of two for the price of one.

Just book a table on any evening from Monday to Friday and enjoy the three-course set menu for just £19.95 (for two people). Portion sizes remain as generous and the food just as succulent, so the reduction in price in no way means a reduction in quality.

From succulent tuna steaks to homemade chicken kiev, pillows of sole to tender meatballs, the main courses offer mouth-watering English classics with an elegant French twist.

The a la carte menu is still also available on Monday to Saturday evenings.

Martins will now be closed all day Sunday and has put the Friday night carvery to bed to



facilitate demand for the quality set menu and its monthly offer. So for a warm welcome, friendly service and great food with change to spare, book a table at Martins.

Now open Monday to Saturday evenings from 7pm. (The two for one offer is not available on Saturday evenings.)

Last orders 10pm. Phone 01227 750304 to book. Bookings for Christmas Day lunch now being taken.

**Martins, 40 The Street, Boughton-under-Blean, Faversham, Kent ME13 9AS**  
website [www.martinsrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.martinsrestaurant.co.uk)  
Telephone 01227 750304.

### CHEF RECOMMENDS

#### Martins

**Starter:** Queen scallops on a bed of mushrooms, topped with garlic butter, grated cheddar and sprinkled with fresh parsley  
**Main course:** Sole Veronique. Fillets of Dover sole rolled into pillows and served in a white wine and grape sauce, with sides of winter vegetables and sautéed potatoes in mixed herbs.  
**Dessert:** A selection of cheese and biscuits.

Telephone: 01227 750304

#### Romney Spice

**Starter:** King prawn butterfly – deep-fried king prawn coated in breadcrumbs  
**Main course:** Garlic Tikka Ponir Jalfrezi – marinated chicken tikka cooked with fresh extra garlic, cheese, chilli and coriander

Telephone: 01797 361000

#### The George, Lydd

**Starter:** Prawn cocktail with two smoked salmon twists.  
**Main course:** Leicestershire fillet steak with Stilton cheese and a red wine, cream and mushroom sauce.  
**Dessert:** Chef's pancake tower with fresh fruits and dusted with sugar

Telephone: 01797 321710

#### Walnut Tree

**Starter:** Stilton and broccoli soup  
**Main course:** Chicken breast filled with Boursin cheese wrapped in bacon with a peppercorn sauce, potatoes and vegetables.  
**Dessert:** Homemade rhubarb crumble.

Telephone: 01233 720298

#### Rose and Crown

**Starter:** Deep-fried Camembert with a port and redcurrant sauce  
**Main course:** Surf and Turf – Sirloin steak and shell-on prawns with salad, mushrooms, onion rings, chips.  
**Dessert:** Hot chocolate fudge cake with cream or ice cream.

Telephone: 01227 709265.

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**01227 750304**

40 The Street  
Boughton-under-Blean  
Nr Faversham  
Kent ME13 9AS  
[www.martinsrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.martinsrestaurant.co.uk)



## The Walnut Tree

Friday 29th October

**Retro Disco for Halloween**

Songs that will haunt you from your past

Forge Hill, Aldington, 01233 720298  
[www.walnuttree.com](http://www.walnuttree.com)

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## Get the Hallowe'en spirit!

### ■ The Walnut Tree

A HALLOWE'EN disco featuring haunting songs from years past is set to be a major attraction at The Walnut Tree in Aldington.

It is free to come and dance on Friday, October 29, and the music is sure to be excellent, as is the food and drink always available at this well-known venue.

The Walnut Tree is a popular village inn that attracts a large and loyal clientele from all around the area.

It is also one of Kent's most historic pubs and has plenty of the right atmosphere to celebrate the ghosts and ghouls traditionally associated with Hallowe'en.

The pub started life as a timber-framed hut with a thatched roof, but by the 17th century ale was being brewed on the premises.

During the Napoleonic Wars the village was the stronghold of the Aldington Gang – smugglers who roamed the Romney Marsh area.

Much of the ambience is still kept and the



tales of long ago are embellished by an excellent selection of food and wine as well as very well-kept beers.

A pre-Christmas menu is available. Prices are £10.95 for two courses or £12.95 for three.

The senior citizens' lunch on Tuesday is popular. Diners are advised to book to ensure they can sample the whole menu, including the grillstone-cooked dishes.

**Walnut Tree, Forge Hill, Aldington**  
website [www.walnuttree.com](http://www.walnuttree.com)  
Telephone 01233 720298

## The Red Cow Inn

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Join us for Hallowe'en, 30th & 31st October

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## LIVE & LOCAL

### Jonathan sings opera

OPERA singer Jonathan Pugsley will be performing a recital at St Leonards Church in Hythe on Saturday, accompanied by pianist Dr Sarah Murphy.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £13 or £5 for students. To book, email jonpugsley@btinternet.com or write to The Larches, Puddletown Road, Wareham BH20 6AE.

### Confetti maker's show

FRANK Wurzinger dreams of romance in his new show, The Confetti Maker.

A factory worker pursues his dreams in this humorous and poignant show, which combines slapstick and puppetry.

The show is at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury at 7.45pm on Friday. To book, call 01227 769075 or visit [www.thegulbenkian.co.uk](http://www.thegulbenkian.co.uk).

### Explore pride in cinema

ISSUES of sexuality in cinema will be the subject of a talk by University College London lecturer James Agar.

He will talk about predominantly male same-sex desire in world cinema.

The talk is at the Friends Meeting House in Canterbury at 7.45pm on Tuesday and entry costs £3. For details, visit [www.prideincanterbury.org.uk](http://www.prideincanterbury.org.uk).

### Marvel-ous creations

LEARN about the complexities of the cartoon world when writer and comic book editor Tim Quinn visits Ramsgate.

Quinn will teach you the tricks of drawing characters like Spider-Man, Iron Man and the Incredible Hulk. The event starts at 7.30pm on Friday and tickets cost £8/£7 for adults and £6 for children. To book, call 01843 591750.

### Live film use workshop

LEARN about film and animation use in live performance with a workshop at the University of Kent in Canterbury.

Multi-media performance company Forkbeard Fantasy will lead the workshop, presented by PANeK, from 1pm to 5pm and admission costs £15.

To book, call 01304 239965 or 07962 012822 or email [cathy@panek.org.uk](mailto:cathy@panek.org.uk).

### Acorah makes contact

PSYCHIC Derek Acorah will be attempting to contact the spirit world when he visits Kent this weekend.

The TV medium will be passing on messages at New Beach Holiday Park in Dymchurch on Saturday.

To find out more, call 0845 815 9775 or visit [www.derekaacarah.com](http://www.derekaacarah.com).

### Tentacles' return visit

PSYCHEDELIC band Ozric Tentacles return to Margate next week.

Since forming in 1984, the band has released 28 albums and sold more than a million copies worldwide, without backing from a major label.

They can be seen at the Westcoast on Wednesday, October 27. To book tickets, visit [www.westcoastlive.co.uk](http://www.westcoastlive.co.uk) or email [westcoastbar1@aol.com](mailto:westcoastbar1@aol.com).

# Make the most of Kent's coast

## KENT COASTAL WEEK

Saturday, October 23 to Sunday, October 31

Various venues



DISCOVER the beauty, diversity and natural wonder of our coastline during Kent's Coastal Week.

Throughout the week there are many exciting activities taking place all along the coast, giving families the chance to learn more about Kent's beautiful marine life and landscapes together. With more than 100 free or subsidised events on offer, the week features something to interest everyone.

In the Canterbury area, activities range from art and photography to historical discovery. This Saturday, adults and children can take part in a number of workshops in Whitstable, including making mosaic tealight holders inspired by beach huts and deckchairs, creating a still-life oil painting, taking part in a photography treasure hunt and making cupcakes with a seaside vibe.

On Sunday, Whitstable Harbour will play host to A Taste of the Sea, which focuses on marine life and sustainable fisheries, with market traders, wildlife stalls and activities, craft stalls and live music.

Children's arts and crafts activities will be held in Reculver on Saturday and volunteers can help with a beach clean at South Swale Nature Reserve on Monday. Next Wednesday, help to set up a strandline survey in Whitstable or visit Reculver to search for strange wildlife beneath the waves in Reculver next Thursday or join a seashore safari next Friday.

Those interested in history can take part in a special walk at Whitstable Castle on Sunday, October 31, marking the 70th anniversary of the fortification of an island nation.

There is also plenty to enjoy in the Dover area, starting this weekend with an event focusing on Lydden Spout and an autumnal coastal walk along Western Heights. Later in the week, people can help to tidy the River Dour, make a bird-feeder at the Discovery Centre, help to create a butterfly habitat at Aycliffe, join a rock-pooling session at St Margaret's Bay and make seashore lanterns at Samphire Hoe on Halloween.

Shepway activities include a family fossil foray at East Cliff and Warren Country Park, making a beach sculpture at Greatstone, scrub-clearing at Hills Reservoir, learning about sand-dune management at Greatstone Dunes, spotting autumn migrating birds at Dungeness RSPB Reserve, children's craft at Romney Marsh Visitor Centre, silk-screen printing at Silk Worm Studios and more.

Swale is also a hub of activity, with workshops about hand-printed papers, making felt and creating sea-inspired artwork at Creek Creative in Faversham.

Activities in Thanet include a performance of The Oyster's Tale by Scandalmongers at



West Bay in Westgate and Walpole Bay in Cliftonville this Saturday. They will also be leading other sessions, including stories, games, art and magic at Dumpton Gap in Broadstairs, Ramsgate Sands, Botany Bay in Kingsgate and Margate Sands during the week.

An expert from the Natural History Museum will lead an exploration of seaweeds at Botany Bay next Thursday, plus creative people can take part in Thanet Coast's Big Draw at Viking Bay on Saturday, October 30.

With a scrub management task, rock walk, rocky shore discovery session, wildlife walk and trip to the Thanet Offshore Wind Farm also on offer, Kent's Coastal Week provides the perfect opportunity to connect with our coastline.

For listings and booking information, pick up a leaflet or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent](http://www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent).



BY THE SEASIDE: Fun and learning for all ages at Kent's Coastal Week





# Kent & East Sussex Railway

Tenterden Town Station



## Hallowe'en Fun Week

25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October

**Ghostly goings-on at Tenterden  
including 'spooktacular' entertainment  
with 'Mr Mystery'.**

## FRIGHT NIGHT TRAINS

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> & Sat 30<sup>th</sup> October

**You'll be frightened silly on our  
'spooktacular' evening train ride...  
...there'll be a few surprises on the way plus  
a grand firework display!**

**Face painting and pumpkin carving.**

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**Visit [kesr.org.uk](http://kesr.org.uk) for full details**

**01580 765155 • [www.kesr.org.uk](http://www.kesr.org.uk)**

# Halloween Fear & Fun

The Rare Breeds Centre, Woodchurch

**Day time: 10.30 - 5 pm**

**25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**Night time: 6.30pm - 10 pm**

*Only suitable for children over 12*

**28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October**



*Fun by day, Scary by night!*

**PLEASE NOTE** Evenings are recommended  
for adults and over 12s only

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18<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> December inc.  
Two early evening sessions  
on 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December**



### NOT TO BE MISSED

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Gift & Craft Fair in the Falcons Centre  
Lots of Wonderful ideas for Christmas Presents!

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## WESTERN HEIGHTS MINI OPEN WEEKEND

Saturday, October 23 & Sunday, October 24, Western Heights, Dover

HISTORY comes alive in impressive style at the Western Heights Preservation Society Mini Open Weekend.

The First Foot Guards re-enactment group will be on hand to add period colour to the event, which sheds light on the role of the Western Heights. They are a series of strong points, linked by miles of ditches, on the western hilltop over Dover and form one of Britain's most impressive fortifications.

Their construction during the American War of Independence and they were strengthened during the Napoleonic Wars,

then again in the mid-19th Century.

During the open weekend, visitors will have rare access to parts of the Drop Redoubt fortress and the Grand Shaft, a unique 19th-century triple staircase. Access to the fort is not possible for wheelchairs, prams or pushchairs.

Admission to the Grand Shaft is free and entry to the Drop Redoubt costs £2.50 for adults and is free for accompanied children. All proceeds will go back into the preservation of the fort.

To find out more, visit [www.doverwesternheights.org](http://www.doverwesternheights.org).



## THE KNICKER LADY

Saturday, October 3, Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs

FROM bloomers to Y-fronts, The Knicker Lady can provide an intimate guide to the history of underwear.

Rosemary Hawthorne's hit show takes the audience on a hilarious journey through the evolution of the knicker, entertaining and captivating them at the same time. Both male and female garments go under the spotlight in this high-tempo show that exposes the humble bikini, boxer and thong to the cold light of day.

With 250 years' worth of precious pants to rustle through, Hawthorne also brings to life the

colourful characters who wore them, from the elegant ladies of Jane Austen's England to the feisty suffragettes and the flappers of the roaring 20s.

Presenting the show in her own enigmatic style, Hawthorne leaves no brief left unturned in her quest to expose the history of the knicker.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10 for Sarah Thorne Theatre Club members or £12 for non-members, who must book at least 24 hours in advance. Call the box office on 0845 262 6263 or email [info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk](mailto:info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk).

## PEGGY SEEGER

Wednesday, October 27, The Chimney Boy, Faversham



FAVERSHAM Folk Club welcomes one of the genre's finest female artists next week.

American singer and multi-instrumentalist Peggy Seeger has impressive family connections within the folk world. Born in 1935, she is the daughter of Ruth Crawford Seeger, a composer who was the first woman to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship, and half-sister to fellow folk artist Pete Seeger. She married and had three children with Ewan MacColl, inspiring him to write the classic love song, The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face.

From 1959 onwards, the couple worked together to promote the burgeoning UK folk revival, hunting for little-known traditional songs from the UK and US and training other singers to be part of political-musical documentary theatre. They also instigated the revolutionary Radio Ballad form, an audio documentary format that uses four elements of sound.

MacColl died in 1989, but Seeger has continued to be one of folk's most respected artists. She has made 22 solo recordings and performed with more than 100 other artists.

The concert starts at 8.30pm and tickets cost £10. For more information, call 01795 536857.



## HALLOWEEN AT DOVER CASTLE

Monday, October 25 to Sunday, October 31, Dover Castle

FROM freaky 'feely boxes' to sinister spooks, there is lots of creepy fun going at Dover Castle this half-term.

Join a ghost tour with creepy Victorian mediums, Nora Sidgwick and Frederic Myers, who will lead the way into some of the castle's darkest corners. Visitors should prepare to come face to face with the ghosts who still stalk the corridors, including the ghoulish Phantom Drummer Boy. The tragic lad was ambushed and killed in the 18th Century, yet people say that his spirit can still be spotted on the battlements and his haunting drum can still be heard echoing in the night.

Anyone who is feeling brave can attempt to pass through the Tunnel of Terror, complete with cobwebs and the horrible feely boxes, into which courageous visitors must plunge their hands.

Every day there will be a competition to find the best fancy dress among visiting children, so make sure you dress to impress. There is also plenty for all the family to discover in the Great Tower, along with the fascinating Roman Lighthouse and battlements.

For more information on Dover Castle's event, visit [www.english-heritage.org.uk/dovercastle](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/dovercastle).



## LDN WRESTLING

Sunday, October 24, Winter Gardens, Margate



STARS of the wrestling ring return to Margate this weekend for more rumbles against the ropes.

The Winter Gardens will host the season finale of Sky TV's LDN Wrestling, giving fans the chance to experience all the thrilling action live. With three title matches on the bill, spectators of all ages can look forward to exhilarating entertainment for all the family.

For the first time in three years, a trio of titles will be decided on Sunday – the British Heavyweight Championship, the Capital Championship and the Tag Team Championship.

Team Hate takes on Planet Future in the tag team contest, while LDN British Heavyweight Champion Jon 'The Don' Ritchie squares up to Capital Wrestling Champion, Travis.

Big names such as 'Wrestling Politician' Richard Parliament, 'Polish Powerhouse' Wolf Alexander, 'Blackbelt' Tom Dawkins and the Bulldozer will be taking part in an eight-man elimination survivor series contest, to battle it out for the title King of the Ring.

The first bell rings at 5pm and tickets cost £10/£9. To book, call 01843 296111/292795 or visit [www.margatewintergardens.co.uk](http://www.margatewintergardens.co.uk).



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 parties available 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
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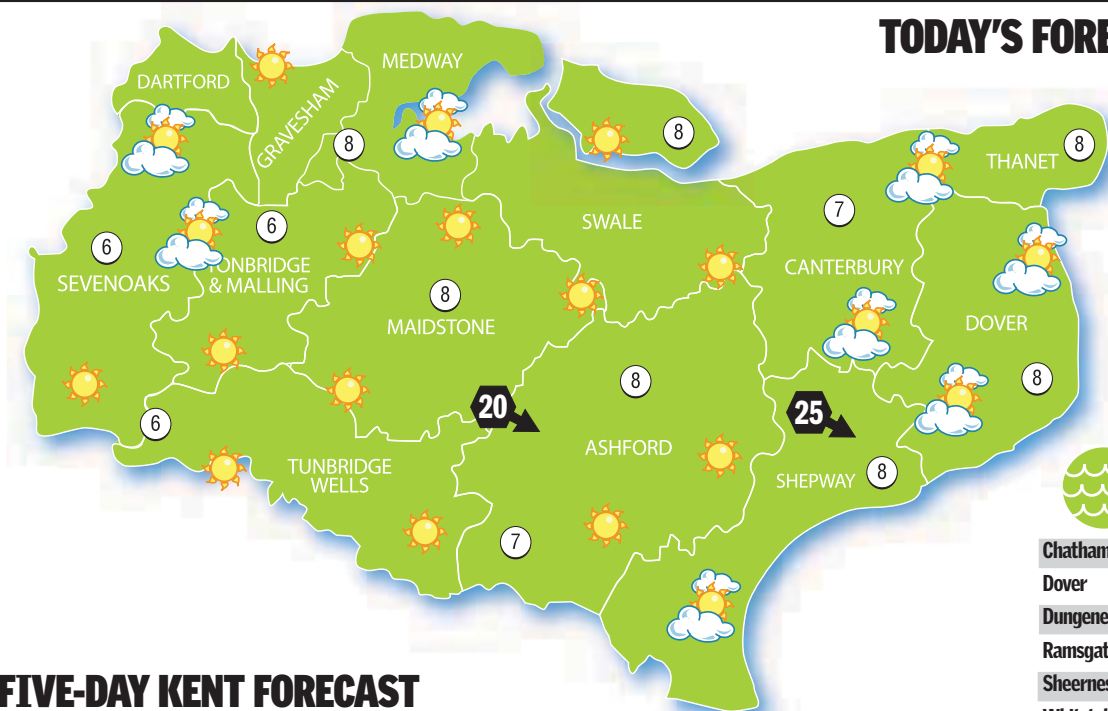
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## TODAY'S FORECAST



## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	12°C	Madrid	14°C
Athens	19°C	New York	19°C
Barcelona	16°C	Paris	12°C
Beijing	8°C	Rome	16°C
Bombay	31°C	Sydney	23°C
Cape Town	21°C	Tenerife	24°C
Cardiff	13°C	Tokyo	22°C
Gibraltar	21°C	Vancouver	11°C
Hong Kong	31°C	Warsaw	3°C
Las Palmas	24°C	Wellington	14°C



## KENT'S WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	1:40pm 5.9m	Sunday	2:12pm 6.0m
Dover	Saturday	11:51am 6.5m	Sunday	12:18pm 6.5m
Dungeness	Saturday	11:58am 7.6m	Sunday	12:29pm 7.7m
Ramsgate	Saturday	12:21pm 5.0m	Sunday	12:48pm 5.0m
Sheerness	Saturday	1:30pm 5.7m	Sunday	2:02pm 5.7m
Whitstable	Saturday	1:37pm 5.2m	Sunday	2:09pm 5.3m

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Whitstable																	Saturday	13/pm 5.
Ashford	13°C	8°C	11°C	13°C	13°C	Dover	12°C	8°C	10°C	12°C	12°C	Gravesend	13°C	9°C	11°C	13°C	13°C	Sevenoaks	11°C	7°C	9°C	11°C	11°C	
Canterbury	12°C	8°C	10°C	12°C	12°C	Faversham	13°C	10°C	12°C	13°C	13°C	Maidstone	13°C	9°C	11°C	13°C	13°C	Sittingbourne	13°C	10°C	12°C	13°C	13°C	
Chatham	13°C	10°C	12°C	13°C	13°C	Folkstone	12°C	8°C	10°C	12°C	12°C	Ramsgate	12°C	8°C	10°C	12°C	12°C	Tonbridge	13°C	7°C	10°C	12°C	12°C	
Dartford	13°C	9°C	11°C	13°C	13°C	Gillingham	13°C	10°C	12°C	13°C	13°C	Rochester	13°C	10°C	12°C	13°C	13°C	Tun Wells	13°C	7°C	10°C	12°C	12°C	



SUNRISE 7:28am SUNSET 5:52pm



MOONRISE 4:29pm MOONSET 4:42am



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## WIN! Tickets to Quex Bonfire and Fireworks

DON'T miss out on this great opportunity to take your family to a spectacular night of fire and fireworks.

Kent Events will be holding their third annual Bonfire and Fireworks event at Quex Park, Birchington, on Saturday, November 6.

This year the event will be in support of Demelza House and other locally based charities and organisations.

The evening kicks off at 4pm, with a huge bonfire being lit from 6.30pm and a brilliant firework display from 7.30pm.



In addition to a funfair, licensed bar and various refreshment outlets stalls, there will live entertainment from Hullabaloo, who perform a blend of jazz, jive, swing, and an original twist on pop.

The full 20-minute firework display is provided by local company Theatrical Pyrotechnics and will take place in front of Quex Manor House.

Having listened to the feedback of visitors in previous years, organisers Kent Events are hoping to once again raise a 40ft bonfire thanks to the help of sponsors Fuji-Film Sericol who have provided all the materials.

Kent Events co-director Carol Dutton said: "Our third firework event at Quex is set to be bigger and better than before, we are proud to be the providers of what is becoming such a high profile event and would like to thank all our sponsors and supporters for helping to make this possible."

Tickets are priced at £6 for adults and £5

child (under 13), if purchased in advance, children under 3 are free are available from [www.kentevents.org.uk](http://www.kentevents.org.uk), through [www.wherewecanwego.com](http://www.wherewecanwego.com) or locally at The Quex Barn or The Secret Garden. Alternatively, they can be purchased on the night when adults are £7 and under 13s £6.

This year the event will also have a limited number of Landeez All Terrain wheelchairs, these must be booked in advance of the night and secured by a non-refundable deposit of £5, which is donated to the charity to enable the chairs to be maintained.

Please contact the organisers to arrange.

Would all visitors please note, the event is held within the meadow field of Quex Park and therefore appropriate footwear must be worn. Please no pets, personal fireworks, alcohol or picnic tables.

Archant KOS Media are proud sponsors of Bonfire and Fireworks at Quex.

For your chance to win one of four family tickets (two adults and two children) just answer the simple question below.



**Question: Which group are singing at the event at Quex this year?**

Send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Quex Bonfire Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. The closing date is Friday, October 29.

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For the purposes of the prize, children are aged three to 13. All attractions are weather dependent. If inclement weather occurs, the event may be postponed 24 hours, please refer to our terms and conditions displayed on our website [www.kentevents.org.uk](http://www.kentevents.org.uk) for full details.



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## BUSINESS



midWEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

## INSIDE THIS WEEK

## STEVE LOADER

BUSINESS EDITOR TELEPHONE: 01303 817029  
EMAIL: steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

■ Giant shopping mall Bluewater could be worth around £1.7 billion according to the price tag on a 75 per cent stake being offered for sale.

Hermes Real Estate, a long-running but minority shareholder in the project since it opened ten years ago, is selling its holding valued at £120 million after deciding to re-balance its property portfolio at a time when the Kent site is regularly outperforming a depressed retail sector.

■ FORMER brewing giant Whitbread – now better known for its restaurants to hotels portfolio – will open a new £1.3 million Premier Inn hotel in Rainham High Street on November 1.

The new site alongside Whitbread's existing Manor Farm Beefeater Grill, will offer 26 bedrooms from £58 per night and has created 15 new jobs across housekeeping and reception.

■ ONE man band businesses must not be spooked as the Halloween deadline looms for filing paper Self Assessment tax returns.

That's the advice from the South East Society of Chartered Accountants, which points out that the tax man will only apply penalties – starting with an automatic £100 – and mounting interest charges for the year ending April 5, 2010, if they still subsequently file a paper return. However, an electronic online return buys a further three months' leeway to January 31.

## KEY PARTNERS

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# KRBS is aiming to pour all its savings into One

■ BY STEVE LOADER

ONE of Britain's oldest surviving building societies is set to disappear in a merger to create a new banking force, OneSavings.

Kent Reliance (KRBS) can trace its roots back to 1847 and is a rare example of the nation's once thriving mutual (member-owned) sector, but now aims to pool its £2.2 billion assets with American private equity firm JC Flowers, which will invest £50 million and gain a 40 per cent stake in the new bank.

## Approval

The motivation for KRBS – ranked 11th in the UK by asset value – stems from the Northern Rock crash in 2007, which made it harder for traditional mutual societies to raise or attract cash to build their businesses.

City experts believe JC Flowers aims to use this situation to woo other small societies to build OneSavings and challenge traditional banking players Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds TSB and RBS NatWest and the increasingly powerful Spanish-owned Santander.

The conviction gathered strength with the American firm's recent hiring of the former head of the UK's fourth biggest building society, the Skipton.

John Goodfellow ran the Yorkshire society for 17 years and says he is acting as an advisor on the mutual sector, while strenuously denying his former employer is in the US firm's sights.

JC Flowers' founder Christopher Flowers – a former partner in American banking and finance firm Goldman Sachs – made abortive moves on Northern Rock, Friends Provident, and Bradford and Bingley, before succeeding with KRBS.

But the plans must still be ratified by the Financial Services Authority and, more importantly in this instance, gain approval from 75 per cent of Kent Reliance savers and borrowers under the old mutual society structure.

Members will be balloted and the result announced at a special meeting of the society on November 19. A 'yes' vote will allow the new bank to be created in February, 2011.

Member reaction has been muted since the proposals were released in August and it is likely that dissent will be mollified by breaking news this week that the JC Flowers' stake had been cut from 49 to 40 per cent and confirmation that KRBS would retain control.

But the biggest hurdle is likely to be that, unlike the rash of building society de-mutualisations in the 1990s, no windfall payments are being tabled to entice members to agree to this scheme.

## 'Liabilities'

KRBS has some 180,000 members and 45 staff and has been one of the fastest-growing building societies in the country over the past decade, while slashing overheads.

Fourteen outlets have been cut to eight and only two are now full branches – Chatham and Hempstead – with CEO Mike Lazenby happy to brand traditional branches as "liabilities".

As it has pruned profile on Kent high streets, KRBS has sought it elsewhere through sponsorship of football clubs Gillingham, Charlton Athletic and Whitstable Town.

## BUSINESSWEEKLive

### ...timed to make sense of the spending review

BUSINESSES in Kent have mixed emotions ahead of today's Comprehensive Spending Review by the Government – relief that the UK debt mountain is being tackled, but fears for confidence, trade and jobs.

And there will be many questions and challenges raised – ones that Business Week Live (BWL) aims to answer on Wednesday, November 10, in three weeks time.

Billed as an essential event for business owners, entrepreneurs and managers, BWL has been created by Archant KOS Media.

Delegates and visitors already registered include MDs, CEOs, FDs and many other directors and managers from all business sectors, representing companies from SMEs to larger private and public organisations and agencies.

Archant KOS Media commercial director Christine Davidson said: "The appeal is BWL's offer of true value to attendees at a crucial time in their planning process; post CSR and prior to the crunch year of 2011 – everyone and their businesses needs to know where the opportunities will be.

"In addition to sourcing suppliers and partners, visitors will get free access to a conference programme and workshop of more than 20 speakers. All delegates attending the inspirational manager session presented by Neil Annis will walk away with access to more than £2,500 of training resource.

And Kent Business School is providing a free Business Clinic during the show.

Companies can book a 30-minute slot with a clinic team comprising MBA (Master of Business Administration) students, MBA alumni and MBA academics.

MBA students have an average of ten years' management experience here and abroad: "No hard-pressed firm can really pass up on the chance of brainstorming their company problems with such experts when just one good tip could save their company," said Davidson.

Other hot topics include:

• **Getting investment:** hear Phil Bevean, portfolio director for the Kent and Medway Innovation Team, and Liz Dolding, partner and commercial legal expert from Warners Solicitors, tell you how to turn your ideas into profitable business.

• **Going digital:** apps, stats, vids, mobiles and the web – what does it all mean for business? Come and hear from leading expert Jonnie Jensen, who has more than ten years' experience in the sector with leading companies such as Lycos Europe.

• **Inspirational management:** Neil Annis has more than 20 years' experience in operational management, sales, change management, training & coaching, personal and organisational development.

## CONFERENCE TOPICS

### • READYING INVESTMENT...

How to catch your dragon

### • DIGITAL REVOLUTION...

What's in it for business?

### • TWEET, GREET AND NETWORK...

Is social media like Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn worth the investment?

### • WIN THE WAR FOR TALENT...

Getting the best staff

### • MANAGE AND INSPIRE...

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### • MAKING 'BRICKS AND CLICKS' STICK...

Multi-channel marketing

### • THE BIG DEBATE...

What will be the role of business in the 'Big Society'?

For more details log on to [www.businessweeklive.co.uk](http://www.businessweeklive.co.uk)

• **Multi-channel marketing:** it can seem daunting and complex, but leading specialist Ben Edwards can navigate you to the benefits for your business and profits.

• **And join the big debate:** David Cameron launched the 'Big Society' to empower communities to run post offices, libraries, transport services and shape housing projects. What are the implications of this for businesses, and how can they be involved? Come and join a

panel session with leading experts from local business and social enterprise.

Exhibiting companies leading the line-up for Wednesday, November 10 at the County Showground, Detling include BT, East Malling Conference Centre, IPS international, KCC Low Carbon Futures, Kent FA, Kent Science Park, Manston Airport, Medway Safety, NatWest, University of Greenwich, Village Hotels, The Kent Foundation, Circatron and Comcheck.

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# Online Face-off falls a little flat as it takes on big-screen status

■ BY DAMON SMITH

ON JULY 21 this year, social networking site Facebook proudly welcomed its 500 millionth user to the online fold.

It's a mind-boggling statistic, even more so when you consider that seven years ago, no-one had heard of the site. Indeed, it didn't exist.

In less than a decade, an idea born in the hallowed corridors of Harvard University has quite literally taken over the world and changed the way we communicate.

As one of the characters in The Social Network, David Fincher's expertly crafted film about the creation of the site, quips: "Bosnians – they don't have roads but they have Facebook."

## Turbulent

Like all good ideas, the site has made its creators very wealthy, but as Ben Mezrich's book The Accidental Billionaires chronicled, the turbulent history of Facebook led to not just one but two lawsuits.

Working from a screenplay by Aaron Sorkin, Fincher employs a fractured chronology to dissect the jealousy and betrayal which underpinned the success of the site.

The Social Network opens by introducing central protagonist Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg), a computer nerd whose lack of social skills become apparent as he is deservedly dumped by his girlfriend (Rooney Mara).

In revenge, Mark spews bile in an online blog then creates a crude website called facemash.com, which racks up "22,000 hits in two hours" and brings the nerd to the attention of

Divya Narendra (Max Minghella) and the Winklevoss twins (Armie Hammer), who want Mark to program their internal social networking site called HarvardConnection.

Soon after, Mark approaches friends Eduardo Saverin (Andrew Garfield), Dustin Moskovitz (Joseph Mazzello) and Chris Hughes (Patrick Mapel) with an almost identical idea.

The whole campus excitedly logs on and the friends expand to Stanford and eventually across the Atlantic, before Sean Parker (Justin Timberlake), the entrepreneur behind Napster, becomes involved and offers Mark his advice.

"Drop the 'The'. Just Facebook. It's cleaner."

## Flawless

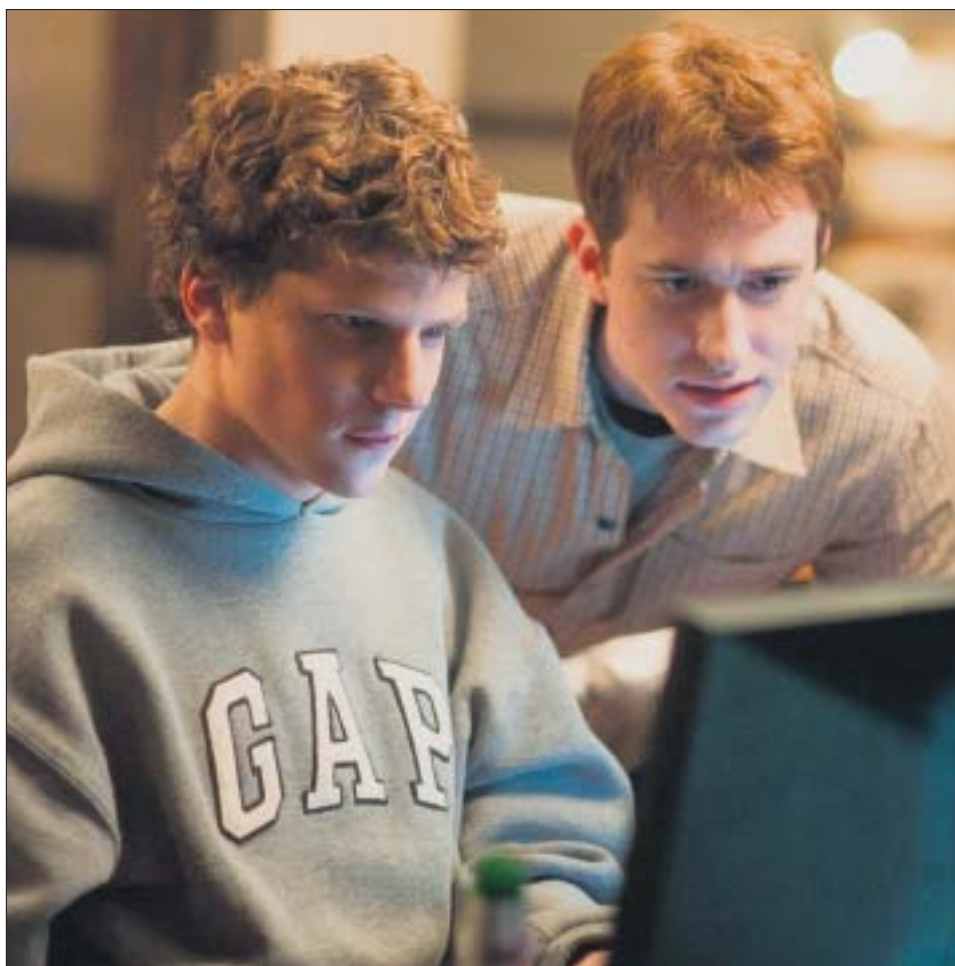
The Social Network is technically flawless, powered by Fincher's dazzling direction, including a bravura rowing sequence at Henley Regatta set to a reworking of Grieg's In The Hall Of The Mountain King.

Sorkin's screenplay is equally polished – so much so that characters speak without hesitation or pause for thought, which strains credibility, even at one of America's most revered seats of learning.

Eisenberg's compelling, one-note performance fails to reveal any chinks of humanity beneath Zuckerberg's thick skin.

Indeed, to the final frame, the character is an emotionally cold and unsympathetic loner, which leaves us with no-one to root for as the legal battle turns nasty.

Garfield is much more likeable and when he vows revenge against Mark, seething, "I'm not coming back for 30 per cent, I'm coming back for everything", it's the closest we come to a rush of adrenaline.



**FACING FACTS:** Jesse Eisenberg as Mark Zuckerberg and Joseph Mazzello as Dustin Moskovitz make online history in The Social Network

**THE SOCIAL NETWORK**   
Certificate 12A

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**HEIRS AND GRACES:** Intrigue and polite conversation over dinner at Downton Abbey



## YOUR TV REVIEW DOWNTON ABBEY: ITV, 9pm, Sunday

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

FOR a highbrow insight into the dying days of the British aristocracy, and a stonking period drama to boot, Downton Abbey is the one to watch.

ITV's newest costume drama is set in a great country house in 1912. It details many of the upstairs-downstairs dichotomies prevalent in state-homes at the time.

The first introduction we have to the house is finding that the Duke of Grantham's two heirs have been wiped out by the sinking of the Titanic. It soon becomes clear the next in line to the title and estate is not one of its well-bred inmates but a distant middle-class relative who works as a lawyer in Manchester (a concept still alien to the aristocracy).

One of the fortés of this drama is that it doesn't shy away from the bigoted attitudes of the time in favour of a light-hearted story.

Many of those inside Downton, servants and family alike, are quick to condemn the new heir and his mother for being 'not our sort of people'.

The Duke of Grantham's (Hugh Bonneville) quiet and noble new valet John Bates (Brendan Coyle) has a limp due to a shrapnel injury picked up in the Boer War, and he is treated as a drain on resources by footmen and maids.

The blatant and accepted discrimination makes the watcher feel proud of modern political correctness and disability compliance laws.

The gay footman being treated as a guilty, disposable secret by his titled lover makes today's society seem far more advanced by comparison.

The drama has a stellar cast

including Maggie Smith, known to younger viewers as Professor McGonagall from Harry Potter, costume drama veteran Hugh Bonneville and Brendan Coyle, lately of Lark Rise to Candleford.

The plot and dialogue are both compelling, as are the more seasoned actors and actresses, of which there are many.

Although less practised, the younger cast members put in admirable performances and add freshness to what could otherwise have been a stuffy show.

The story follows both the aristocratic family and the servants, ensuring plenty of promising storylines to follow.

An understated and intriguing drama, if Downton Abbey continues in the same vein it will have me hooked all series.

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# yourmusic

## Your chance to sing the blues



**DON'T FRET:** The Battle of the Blues contest is seeking talented jazz musicians

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

BLUES bands are being invited to take part in a nationwide talent search which will see the UK's top unsigned act being flown out to Canada to perform at a world-renowned festival.

The Battle of the Blues contest is being led by the Canadian province of New Brunswick, which is offering the overall winner the opportunity of performing at the Harvest Jazz and Blues Festival in Fredericton in September, 2011.

Competition organiser Lisa Gagnon appealed for the county's top jazz and blues stars to put their name forward.

She said: "The Harvest Jazz and Blues Festival is looking for new international talent to add to their line-up for 2011 and we feel the UK has a lot to offer in the way of exceptional blues musicians."

"We want to tap into the blues scene and find some real gems."

Entry to the first stage of the competition is via YouTube. The deadline for applicants is Friday, December 17.

Successful musicians will then be selected to perform at a one-night battle of the bands-style heat at The New Crawdaddy Blues Club in Billericay, Essex, on Thursday, January 27.

The regional winners will travel to London for the final to be held on Tuesday, March 29, and judged by a panel of blues greats.

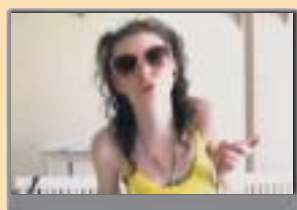
Regional runners-up will be put to a public vote and the public choices will also get to perform on the London stage.

But there can only be one outright UK winner and they must prove they can produce new and original work and they must be unsigned.

For more information about the competition, visit [www.tourismnewbrunswick.co.uk](http://www.tourismnewbrunswick.co.uk).

UPLOAD YOUR MUSIC VIDEOS TO BROADCAST ON OUR WEBSITE @

[yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)



**BEING POLITE:** Singer Kayleigh Phillips performs her new song The Polite Way



**MUSIC FESTIVAL:** A montage from this year's Lounge on the Farm



**BAND PRACTICE:** Zinta Egle and her band play Love With No Love



### TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Promise Me Tomorrow - 23/10 The Railway, Deal
- 2 The Tyrant - 25/10 Lanterns, Folkestone
- 3 Happy Daze - 30/10 Canterbury Conservative Club
- 4 Houdini - 4/11 Earls, Maidstone
- 5 Third Place Victory - 5/11 Wired Headline, Margate



**OSTEND OF THE LINE:** Monuments commemorate Ostend's military history while its impressive tramway provides inter-European links

## yourgetaways

## Why not soak up the heart and soul of Flemish city life

■ BY NICK AMES

BEER, chocolates and trams together with a large part of the history of the two world wars are immediately associated with our neighbour across the water, Belgium.

So is classical-style architecture, good food and art.

But soul music?

The resort of Ostend boasts numerous attractions, including access to the world's largest tram network, which covers the entire Belgian coast from the French to the Dutch border.

There is even a display in a seafront museum dedicated to the history of this form of transport, with vintage rolling stock – which has served the country for 125 years. In the centre of the attractive town is a museum dedicated to the weird and wonderful satirical works of James Ensor, who satirised the ruling classes in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.

A walk through the town with an iPod provided by the local tourist board is an illuminating way of looking at his inspirations.

Nearby is a section of the German Atlantic Wall which was built to defend the occupied country against the expected Allied invasion.

The Germans abandoned it though as the British, Americans and Canadians advanced from the south and it is now among the best preserved examples of the military of the Third Reich anywhere in the world.

But Ostend has a very interesting former resident – more usually associated with Detroit than Flanders.

On the advice of Belgian concert promoter Freddy Cousaert, soul legend Marvin Gaye (pictured) moved to the town in February 1981 where for a time he cut down on drugs and began to get back in shape both physically and emotionally.

### FACT FILE: OSTEND

<b>Time difference</b>	+One hour (GMT)
<b>Language</b>	French, Flemish, English
<b>Population</b>	69,000
<b>Currency</b>	Euro
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic

LD Lines/Transeuropa Ferries operate four return sailings daily between Ramsgate and Ostend. Short break fares start from £78 return for a car and two passengers and Autumn Break fares from £59 single for a car and up to nine passengers. For information and to book: [www.ldlines.com](http://www.ldlines.com) or call 0844 576 8836. Ostend Tourism Visitor information: [www.toerisme-ostende.be](http://www.toerisme-ostende.be) or email: [info@toerisme-ostende.be](mailto:info@toerisme-ostende.be) or call: 00 32 (0) 59 70 11 99. Further short break and online reservations available via: [www.specialoffers-ostende.be](http://www.specialoffers-ostende.be). Also for Ostend/Flanders information: [www.visit-flanders.com](http://www.visit-flanders.com).



He was also in a little bit of trouble with the tax authorities back home.

While in Belgium, Gaye began to make plans to renew his declining fortunes in his professional career, starting with a tour he titled The Heavy Love Affair Tour in England.

The tour ended with two concert dates in Ostend. A documentary leading up to his Belgian concert performances titled Transit Ostend was initially released to just Belgian fans, and was later issued in bootleg copies following Gaye's death.

"Marvin was a special man, very distinguished, very impressive, but it was like Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde," said Monique Licht, an independent film producer in Belgium who worked with Gaye on a 30-minute film for Belgian television, 1981's Marvin Gaye: Transit Ostend.

"At times, he was like an elegant zombie walking along the beach in Ostend," said Ms Licht. "He was there, but at the same time he was not there."

"He was happy alone in front of

the sea. In my opinion, he should have stayed in Ostend. I don't understand why he went back to the States. If he had stayed, he might still be alive today."

Those who knew the soul star in the town say it is the sort of place where visitors are left alone but welcomed whenever they seek company. Ostend has been welcoming visitors from Britain for years and English is widely spoken.

The streets are thronged with restaurants and bars, with the local beer among the best in the world.

As well as the art and culture, the town boasts excellent shopping opportunities and a thriving arts scene.

Railways connect it to the rest of Europe and the marina, with its tall ship, is spectacular.

And it has one mystery connected with its music legend.

Everyone says the piano on which Gaye composed Sexual Healing is around. But no-one knows exactly where it is.

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## Women Seeking

**Guys Text n' Chat.** Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT883 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

**JACKIE** homely, 52, seeks genuine, homely male, 50-65 for caring, sharing and spoiling. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350005 ☺

**SINGLE** mum, 39, likes most things, seeks male with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349995 ☺

**LADY** seeks N/S, clean shaven male to appreciate artistic, romantic, feisty, attractive, slimish, curvy lady of 69 who has not yet joined the wrinkles. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349577 ☺

**BEAUTIFUL** slim, Oriental babe, 22, stunning figure, seeks older, solvent gent, 70 plus to spoil and pamper her. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348545 ☺

**ELSIE** 5ft 8ins, 70's, OHAC, N/S, likes pub lunches, walks, seeks gent for company, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348425 ☺

**WORLD** traveller, fit, young minded female, enjoys life, seeks special interesting male, 60's for genuine relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349053 ☺

**LATE** 40's female, likes most things, animals, walks, cinema, seeks male 45-59 for good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348941 ☺

**DAISY** sexy, voluptuous, leggy, blonde, seeks male, 76 plus who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348889 ☺

**FAYE** N/S, non drinker, lots of love to give, seeks special, genuine, honest male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349309 ☺

**HONEST** caring, genuine female, 44, GSOH, likes meals out, nights in, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381844 ☺

**41YR** old divorced female, likes astrology, writing, cats, seeks fun loving guy with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381528 ☺

**JANET** 52, kind, caring, honest, loving, likes cinema, nights in, meals out, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347217 ☺

**AFFABLE** serene, black, attractive female, nice smile, 37, slim, 5ft 7ins, likes reading, music, theatre and more, seeks genuine, caring gent, 36-49, N/S to share life and laughter. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815 ☺

**ATTRACTIVE** slim, easygoing, African lady, 30's, likes travel, nights in, seeks genuine, solvent white male, 30-48 for no strings relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346955 ☺

**ALICE** 47, black, seeks older male for love and relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381748 ☺

**TRACEY** 45, sexy Scorpio, tattooed, petite, affectionate, likes music, comedy, cinema, seeks tall, medium build, tattooed, easygoing male, 45-48 with GSOH. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341045 ☺

**MICHELLE** 39, blue eyed blonde bombshell, beautiful curves, enjoys male company, seeks romantic male who likes the simple things in life too. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341289 ☺

**LEONA** 38, petite, slim, energetic, brunette WLTm enthusiastic male who doesn't take life too seriously for uncomplicated fun. Looks/age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341287 ☺

**YOUNG** 52yr old attractive, slim brunette, N/S, easygoing, enjoys most things, seeks N/S genuine male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340787 ☺

**LINDA** larger lady 61, seeks male for company and time out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340701 ☺

**JANE** 40's, beautiful slim blonde with blue eyes, friendly and eager to please searching for fun and romance with tall, attractive, slim man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341319 ☺

**CHARLIE** 40, blue eyed, dark skin, long legs, voluptuous, likes seaside, walks, DIY, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346907 ☺

**BARBARA** divorced, active, 5ft 7ins, dark hair/eyes, likes cinema, theatre, meals out, holidays, seeks intelligent male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346745 ☺

**ANNA** 62, seeks guy, 59-65 with an interest in the simple things in life for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346707 ☺

**62YR** old female, 5ft 4ins, blonde hair, green eyes, medium build, likes walks, keep fit, dancing, gardening, cooking, seeks male, 59-65. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346705 ☺

**HAPPY** go lucky blue eyed blonde, 38 just wants to make someone happy seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347347 ☺

**42YR** old stunning blonde nurse looking to share a bottle of good wine, relax and whatever follows with a tall professional male. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347345 ☺

**OUTGOING** 44, bubbly, brunette, likes to keep fit seeks outgoing, sporty male who knows how to enjoy life too. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347341 ☺

**STUNNING** slim brunette, 40, great company, loves going out, looking to share intimate moments with that special someone. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347339 ☺

**PATRICIA** outgoing, confident, feminine, warm, friendly, smart, good company, attractive, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347215 ☺

**LADY** 35, fun loving tactile brunette, shapely, feminine, WLTm romantic, warm hearted male for a special friendship/relationship. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344171 ☺

**LOUISE** 19, fun, flirty brunette, seeks good looking, well built older male with a nice smile to sweep her off her feet and look after her. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341317 ☺

**37YR** old attractive, happy go lucky blonde with great curves seeks lively older male to share the fun side of life with. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344161 ☺

**LOVE** life? Attractive, blue eyed, 52yr old female, romantic, outgoing, genuine, passionate about family, travel, having fun, seeking her prince Charming 45-55 who loves the above and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344323 ☺

**GORGEOUS** girl, 39, independent, lively and just that bit different, loves live music, the outdoors, looking for new adventures with confident, unconventional guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342483 ☺

**BETH** young minded widow, 65, 5ft 5ins, happy, size 14, N/S, many interests, seeks sincere, honest gent for friendship who might admit to some aching bones. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344291 ☺

**RETIRED** professional lady, 70's, likes music, reading, gardens, seeks tall gent for friendship and companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 343503 ☺

**NATALIA** attractive, brunette, brown eyes, 40's, N/S, slim, fit, friendly, seeks sincere, N/S, solvent male for love and relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344393 ☺

**CONFIDENT** blue eyed babe, 23, stunning figure, seeks older male to enjoy fun times only. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344207 ☺

**YOUNG** 42, pretty, funny and unique, loves cosy nights in, seeks attractive spontaneous guy for intimate relationship with lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344205 ☺

**VERY** pretty vivacious blue eyed blonde, 39, loves life, seeks tall, intelligent guy for intimate conversations, fun and romance. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341291 ☺

**KERRY** 39, independent curvy brunette, sensual, tactile, loves cuddles and kisses, seeks cheeky, spontaneous guy to keep her company make her smile again. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340283 ☺

**KAREN** 34, sexy leggy brunette who knows there's more to life than just work! WLTm confident professional male for time off meets in London and fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342525 ☺

**DOROTHY** 70's, 5ft, fair hair, likes coast, Chinese food, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342451 ☺

**SEDUCTIVE** saucy lady 39, curvaceous and fun, seeks happy go lucky male for lots of fun and attention. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344177 ☺

**KAY** 41, saucy redhead with fabulous curves, loves rock music, looking for smart tall dark guy to pamper and be looked after in return. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341315 ☺



## Men Seeking

**Ladies Text n' Chat.** Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT883 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

**HANDSOME** professional male, 6ft 2ins, blond hair, green eyes, 35, WLTm fun loving girl to slowly rediscover the finer things in life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349415 ☺

**JOHN** 45, 5ft 5ins, blue eyes, happy go lucky, caring, likes nights in/out, cinema, seaside, walks, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349417 ☺

**RICHARD** 49, 6ft, slim, professional, GSOH, tactile, affectionate, likes most things, seeks slim, affectionate female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349515 ☺

**59YR** old male, 5ft 8ins, medium build, smoker, GSOH, honest, down to earth, likes music, sunshine, walks, home life, holidays, days out, seeks female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349741 ☺

**MATURE** attractive, fit male, seeks slim, petite, sexy Asian/Oriental/Latino lady for fun LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349805 ☺

**JOHN** 63, 5ft 7ins, slim, attractive, GSOH, smoker, likes a drink, seeks slim female with nice personality. Preferably a bi female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349841 ☺

**ANNE** widow, 70's, 5ft 6ins, brown hair/eyes, likes socialising, tv, meals out, seeks gentleman for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342907 ☺

**LINDA** larger lady 61, likes tv, gardening, seeks male for time out and company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 343093 ☺

**LOVING** blue eyed blonde 28, WLTm unattached loving male for some serious fun and passion. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344203 ☺

**JO** tall, blonde, blue eyes, sexy figure, seeks male for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347421 ☺

**ISABELLE** lovely lady, genuine, honest, loving, caring, 68, N/S, non drinker, slightly disabled, WLTm male for love, companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347305 ☺

**39YR** old tall, slim brunette, big brown eyes, kind, gentle, seeks similar active man to share new experiences and adventures with. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344173 ☺

**BLACK** male, 25, tall, seeks female, 25-35 for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382044 ☺

**CHARLIE** 50's, charm, cheek, charisma, nice house/car, 5ft 9ins, attractive, seeks female for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348829 ☺

**PETER** easygoing, affectionate, loving, sincere, likes beach walks, music, seeks female, 50-60 for lasting relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348029 ☺

**OSSIE** 34, seeks female for no strings fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381852 ☺

**ATTRACTIVE** male, 39, slim, easygoing, genuine, seeks buxom female for down to earth relationship. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348749 ☺

**ATTRACTIVE** sexy male, 20's, kind, generous, warm hearted, seeks sexy lady with sparkle in her eye. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348741 ☺

**PAUL** 44, 5ft 7ins, outgoing, caring, smoker, seeks slim, outgoing, fun girl, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349313 ☺

**PAUL** 48, stocky, likes cosy nights in, tv, seeks cuddly female, 30-35 for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349299 ☺

**SINGLE** male, 40, down to earth, normal, seeks likeminded female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349279 ☺

**BLACK** male, 30, attractive, seeks female, 18-40 slim-medium build for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349267 ☺

**YOUTHFUL** male, 49, 5ft 8ins, N/S, white, seeks slim African Princess, 30-45 for fun and laughter maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350185 ☺

**ALEX** professional black male, 36, likes travel, meals out, museum, theatre, seeks kind lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350203 ☺

**CHARISMATIC** creative, intelligent, handsome, quintessentially sexy male model/massage therapist 39, seeks stylish stunning, sensual lady. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381966 ☺

**EDDIE** 50, blond hair, blue eyes, going through a rough time, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381982 ☺

**ROB** 38, likes animals, cinema, walks, meals out, children, slim, 5ft 11ins, black hair, seeks bubbly female, 25-40. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349069 ☺

**TONY** 48, single dad, carpenter, likes bowling, football, wine, DIY, seeks female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349067 ☺

**DAVID** young intelligent, strong, funny male, 30, black British African, seeks beautiful female with GSOH to share no strings relationship and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381898 ☺

**ATTRACTIVE** blond blue eyed male, 47, HIV positive, extremely genuine, sincere, GSOH, OHAC, seeks warm, sincere, Oriental/black/Asian female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348973 ☺

**PAUL** 44, easygoing, seeks attractive, easygoing female of similar age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381896 ☺

**PROFESSIONAL** affluent executive, 5ft 8ins, N/S, needs to correct work/life balance, seeks lady, 35-45 to share quality time with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348899 ☺

**PAUL** 48, slim, 6ft, seeks caring female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348705 ☺

**JEFFERY** 52, white, 6ft 2ins, medium build, likes meals out, cinema, holidays, seeks single, genuine black female for 1-2-1 relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348663 ☺

**ANDY** 42, romantic, loving, attractive, likes nights out, cooking, weekends away, seeks busty female, 32-55 with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349281 ☺



**NICK** 40, 5ft 6ins, slim-medium build, brown hair/eyes, GSOH, honest, caring, seeks female, 28-38 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349181 ☺

**MELV** 45, long distance lorry driver, GSOH, 6ft, slim, seeks laid-back, easygoing female with no ties for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349171 ☺

**HE** seeks her. Sexy guy 43, 6ft slim, fit, sorted, seeks gorgeous wild, funny, cheeky, sexy female 30-45 for absolutely everything. B her! Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348371 ☺

**WHITE** male, 52, 6ft, mediocr build, likes meals out, cinema nights out, seeks genuine, kinc loving, relaxed lady for 1-2-1 relationship and to settle down. Te No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348235 ☺

**RICHARD** 58, 5ft 11ins, mediocr build, likes meals out, classic cars places of interest, N/S, seek female of similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348199 ☺

**NICK** 40, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 6ins slim, GSOH, genuine, honest, like good times, seeks honest female 28-40 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347297 ☺

## Gay Seeking

**LEN** 61, passive, gay, seeks guy c similar age, N/S for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349953 ☺

**TALL** non scene guy mid 20's seeks older gent, 65 plus for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348543 ☺

**VIC** 70, fit, healthy, own home seeks CD male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 090 515 7112 Box No: 338903 ☺

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## MOTORS NEWS



### Used Mondeo currently most affordable Ford

WHAT Car? has named the diesel Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Zetec hatchback Used Car of the Year 2010.

Just £8,600 buys a 2007 model with all the kit and space a family will ever need – a saving of more than £10,000 on a new Ford Mondeo.

The magazine's editor Steve Fowler said: "It's a comfortable cruiser for covering motorway miles, yet it's still great fun to drive and makes an extremely capable family car. There's loads of cabin space, plus it's solid and well put together."



### Record-breaking Passat keeps going on and on

VOLKSWAGEN'S Passat BlueMotion (from £19,365) has set a new Guinness World Record for the longest distance travelled by a standard production passenger car on a tank of fuel.

The three-day record bid started from Maidstone and went to the South of France and almost made it back; the Passat finally ran out of fuel close to Calais after covering 1,526.63 miles, averaging nearly 90mpg – 50 per cent better than its claimed average – and averaging 45 mph, all from 77.25 litres of diesel.



### Extra E is the greenest

SEAT'S greenest Ecomotive models will be even easier to spot under a new badge structure.

To coincide with the UK launch of the all-new seven-seat Alhambra MPV – which boasts a class-leading 'green' version – and the arrival of the latest generation Ibiza Ecomotive supermini with emissions slashed to a road tax-exempt 92g/km, the VW-owned Spanish marque has come up with the E Ecomotive badge (pictured) to denote models with the ultimate eco-friendly spec, while the simple Ecomotive label continues on those with a reduced green shading.



**LITTLE WONDER:** Suzuki's Jimny is an acquired taste on the road, but its long travel suspension gives it excellent off-road ability for a fraction of the cost of its larger rival 4x4s

# Off-roading downsized

## ROAD TEST SUZUKI JIMNY

■ BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

you might expect, but it is fidgety – don't buy a Jimny just for posing.

Those riding in front get a decent deal and the high driving position is superb for such a compact car, but the rear seats are really suitable only for kids and the boot is minimalist.

There is also no choice of engine and though the little 85bhp 1,328cc petrol engine and low gearing delivers good off-roading, the Jimny is one of the slowest cars you can buy.

However, the gears and steering are crisp so you can enjoy piloting this little workhorse around with an average economy around 40mpg and it will cruise at 70mph, though the cabin is noisy.

Fixtures and fittings are as durable and functional as you might expect on this type of car, though the indicator stalk is mounted on the right – most of us now prefer a Continental-style mounting on the left.

Buy it for the right reasons though and the Suzuki is unbeatable and indestructible.

Most of the time you can run in economical two-wheel drive, via the rear axle, but hit the '4WD' and even the low ratio '4WDL' button for extra purchase.



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#### 10 Plate Skoda Octavia VRS

in black, 18" Alloys, Full VRS Sports Pack. **ONLY £16,995\***

#### 10 Plate Skoda Octavia 1.4 SE TSI

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Aqua Blue, Air Con, Alloys, Only £35 per year road tax. **ONLY £8,995\***

#### 10 Plate Skoda Fabia, 1.2, 5 Door

Storm Blue. **ONLY £8,195\***

#### 59 Plate Skoda Fabia, 1.2, 5 Door

Corrida Red, Air Con, Central Locking. **ONLY £7,995\***

### Used Cars

#### 55 Plate Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDI Estate L and K

Leather Trim, Highland Green Metallic, Air Con, 61,500 miles. £7,995\*

#### 05 Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD Ambiente 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Satin Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 47,800 miles. £6,995

#### 03 Plate Skoda Octavia 1.8 T Elegance 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Admiral Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 12,403 miles. Was £4,995. **Now £4,495\***

#### 09 Plate Skoda Fabia 1.2 Estate

Saturn Grey, Top of the Range, 10,700 miles. £9,495\*

#### 58 Plate Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 13,200 miles. £6,995\*

#### 07 Plate Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 HTP 12V (70 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Flamenco Red Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 13,295 miles. £6,995\*

#### 08 Plate Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Storm Blue Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 26,875 miles. £6,495\*

#### 06 Plate Skoda Fabia 1.9 TDI Elegance Estate

Red with Black Cloth interior, FSH, 51,768 miles. £6,495\*

#### 54 Skoda Fabia 1.4 TDI PD Ambiente 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Beige Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 52,174 miles. £4,995

#### 54 Plate Skoda Fabia 1.2 HTP (54 BHP) Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Dynamic Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 48,500 miles. £3,995\*

#### 03 Skoda Fabia 1.2 HTP (54 BHP) Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 81,500 miles. £2,995\*

#### 58 Plate Skoda Roomster 1.9 TDI

Silver with Black Cloth interior, 11,000 miles. £10,795\*

#### 58 Plate Skoda Roomster Scout 1.6 16v, Automatic

Corrida Red, Top of The Range, 14,500 miles. £9,495\*

### Other Makes

#### 2008 Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4-Door Saloon

Finished in Metallic Gunmetal Grey, Manual, 21,800 miles. £7,995\*

#### 2004 Volkswagen Touran 1.6 S (100BHP) 7-Seat

Finished in Blue Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 50,500 miles. £6,995 **Now £6,495\***

#### 07 Plate SEAT Ibiza 1.4 16v Style

Silver, FSH, 1 owner from new, 16,190 miles. £6,495\*

#### 2006 Fiat Punto 1.2 Active 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Astral Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 41,430 miles. £4,495\*

#### 2004 Citroen C3 Pluriel 1.6 2-Door Cabriolet Jan 2004

Artic Steel Metallic 86,467 miles Manual Petrol £3,995\*

#### 2002 Daewoo Tacuma 1.6 SE 5-Door MPV

Finished in Imperial Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 59,500 miles. £2,995, NOW £2,495\*

#### 05 Plate Rover 23 GSI 1.4 3dr

Grey, 1 Owner, 55,000 miles. £2,495\*

### Clearance Sale

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Bright Red 39,350 miles Manual Petrol. Was £3,995. **Now £2,995\***

#### 2006 Ford Ka 1.3 3-Door Hatchback

Finished in Colorado Red with a Black Cloth interior, 56,500 miles. Was £3,995. **Now £3,295\***

#### 2004 Ford Ka 1.3 3-Door Hatchback

Finished in Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 39,500 miles. Was £2,995. **Now £2,295\***

\*Correct at time of going to press.

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LANCE 5 DOOR  
HATCH  
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Sandringham met-dark grey charcoal interior-aircon-twin glass sunroofs-alloys-cd player-e/w-new card start system-alarm & immobiliser-c/c-front fogs-auto wiper system-1 owner from **£6495**

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Mediterranean blue met-grey cloth trims-colour coded -e/w-p/a/s-coded stereo with cd playerair bag protection-a super little runaround with only 56k- excellent value at only **£2995**

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Panacotter silver met-dark grey cloth-aircon-abs- multi air bags-cd player-multi function steering wheel-alarm and immobiliser-e/w-t/s/h and only one owner from new offered at only **£4995**

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DIESEL 3 DOOR  
Stardust met silver-black cloth interior-aircon-heated front seats-front fogs-e/w-rear parking sensors-c/d player-multi air bags-this is car offers great fuel economy and a real pleasure to drive. **£6495**

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DOOR  
in midnight blue metallic with contrasting grey leather interior, air con, electric windows, electric folding adjustable door mirrors, c/d in-car entertainment, multi function steering wheel, alloys only **£4495**

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Cash Price	Deposit	Balance to Finance
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<b>£66.66</b>	<b>£2499</b>	

### 0% APR Finance

03 Plate **Ford Fusion 1.4**  
27,000 miles



Cash Price	Deposit	Balance to Finance
<b>£3999</b>	<b>£99</b>	<b>£3900</b>
36 Monthly Payments	Total Amount Payable	3 YEARS 0% APR
<b>£108</b>	<b>£3999</b>	

### 0% APR Finance

52 Plate **Ford Focus 1.8 Zetec**



Cash Price	Deposit	Balance to Finance
<b>£3499</b>	<b>£99</b>	<b>£3400</b>
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<b>£94.44</b>	<b>£3499</b>	

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## PROPERTY NEWS

### First-time buyers may face decade of misery

THE current problems in the mortgage market could take a decade to fix, excluding a generation of first-time buyers from getting on to the property ladder, a report has suggested.

The number of mortgages taken out by people with only a ten per cent deposit, loans which are typically associated with first-time buyers, fell dramatically from 245,000 in 2006, to just 28,000 in 2009 – an 89 per cent fall, according to insurer Genworth Financial.

The group said the decrease suggested around 100,000 first-time buyers were excluded from getting on to the property ladder each year during the period.

Angel Mas, president of mortgage insurance Europe at Genworth Financial, said: "The barrier to home ownership appears to be widening, with increasing numbers of first-time buyers excluded – a shocking 100,000 year-on-year between 2006 and 2009.

"The estimation in this report that this is a situation that could take decades, not years, to recover raises real concerns that a whole generation may be excluded from getting a foot on to the housing ladder."

### Mortgages reform is not viable proposition

PROPOSALS by the Financial Services Authority (FSA) to reform the mortgage market could leave many potential borrowers in danger of being unable to obtain what it is they require, according to What Mortgage.

Earlier in the year the FSA recommended imposing affordability tests for all mortgages and making lenders ultimately responsible for ensuring the borrower's ability to pay, as well as providing extra protection for vulnerable customers.

However, the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML) responded by saying that has these changes been in effect from 2005, around 3.8 million 'good' house purchase loans may not have been granted.

Ben Wilkie, editor of What Mortgage, said the FSA needs to listen to industry voices like the CML and in any case, lenders already take steps to reduce their risk.

"Making a cut off for first-time buyers would ruin it for people who want to move house, people who want to remortgage, people who want to invest in property or people who want to downsize when they retire," he added.



# IMF predicting double dip for the UK housing market

■ BY NICK AMES

A WARNING has been issued by one of the most respected financial organisations in the world over the immediate future of the housing market.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has suggested the UK property market could experience a double dip.

In its latest World Economic Outlook, the IMF highlighted that despite Government efforts to boost the housing market and encourage first-time buyers, UK house prices could still be in line for "further correction".

The IMF was referring to the two stamp duty holidays.

"What remains worrisome (about the UK), however, is that house prices are still high based on traditional valuation yardsticks, and policy support may not be enough to prevent further correction," the Fund said.

The IMF points out that a slump in activity had been experienced after a first stamp duty holiday ended in December 2009.

In March 2010, the former Labour Government abolished stamp duty on house purchases up to £250,000 for two years.

The Government said the change would mean 90 per cent of first-time buyers will not pay the duty.

However, despite efforts by the Government, the fact remains that mortgages are less readily available and approvals have slumped. Demand remains at 50 per cent of the level seen prior to the credit crunch.

Meanwhile, the Halifax revealed UK house prices fell by a record 3.6 per cent in September compared with August.

The latest house price fall takes the average cost of a UK home to £162,096, the Halifax said. According to the lender, the monthly decline was the biggest since records began in 1983.

However, it is still too soon to suggest that this is the start of a slump in house prices. The fall in house prices has been attributed to a high level of instructions on the market but a lack of buyer demand, according to many reports.

The uncertainty surrounding the economy is also having a negative impact on the housing market and therefore the market is likely to remain subdued in the short term.



**MAKING THE NEWS:** September saw the average price of a UK home fall to £162,096, the biggest drop since 1983

However, exact details of the market continue to vary across the UK.

The South East has been among the most resilient when it comes to prices and forecasts and predictions can be distorted by poor performances in the market in the north of England.

Critics of the IMF say the British housing market is unique though and once people feel secure about their future and banks start making mortgages available the housing market will pick up.

People have to live somewhere and British people prefer to buy rather than rent.

## Lure of living abroad holds biggest appeal to the British

BRITISH people are unique in the world in their enthusiasm for buying foreign property, according to the Digital Property Group.

The company's head of content Nigel Lewis said there are now

around two million British citizens living abroad.

He said: "Obviously that is a mixture of business people working overseas in places like Singapore, but the majority are people who have retired or have

holiday homes and live overseas for parts of the year," he said.

Interest in buying foreign property peaked in September, figures from the Worldwide Property Group have revealed, with 72 per cent of people saying they think

now is a good time to invest.

The US, Spain and the Caribbean were considered the best places to buy, while Brazil also ranked highly. European countries such as France and Spain also remain popular.

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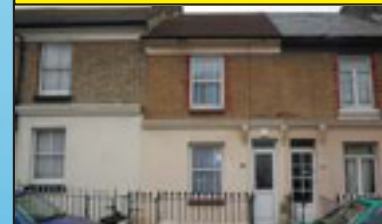
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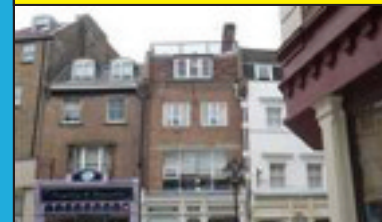
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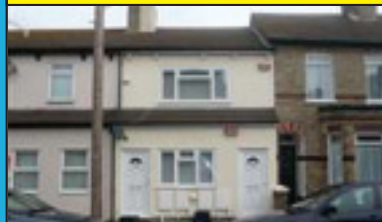
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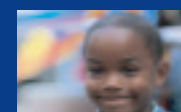
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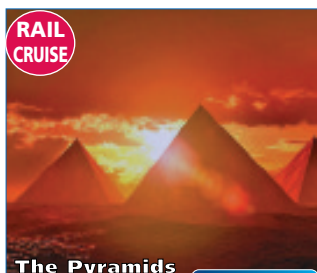
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PENALTY: James Everitt gave Invicta the lead

# Late goals keep FA Trophy hopes alive

Folkestone Invicta 4 Worthing 2

FOLKESTONE Invicta looked set to stumble at the first qualifying round stage of the FA Trophy before their ten-men mounted a barnstorming late surge to ease past Worthing.

Neil Cugley's never-say-die side trailed 2-1 with half an hour left in an eventful tie that contained three penalties.

There was no hint of the drama to come as Invicta opened the scoring in the sixth minute when centre-back Frankie Chappell turned in Josh Burchell's free-kick. Then their Sussex visitors scored two goals in four minutes.

## FOOTBALL

They levelled in the 24th-minute thanks to Mike Hockett's penalty after Josh Vincent handled Luke Gedling's corner. Hockett then gave them a 27th-minute lead.

Folkestone were presented with a perfect equalising chance in the 49th minute when they were awarded a penalty after Tony Timms fouled Darren Smith. He picked himself up to take the kick only for Worthing goalkeeper Benedikt Moritz to produce a fine save.

Folkestone's woes continued just before the

hour when Liam Dickson was sent off for a challenge on Callum Saunders.

But the team showed their mettle by bouncing back from the set-back to equalise in the 63rd minute from their second penalty. When Worthing goalkeeper Moritz fouled Peter Williams, James Everitt took the responsibility from the spot to score.

Everitt then restored Folkestone's lead in the 76th minute, slamming the ball into the roof of the net after Williams had touched on Burchell's shot. Substitute Simon Austin eased Folkestone into the next round with their fourth goal in the 84th minute, turning in a cross from Williams.

## RUGBY

### Stones gear up for Park with win

Sheppey 22 Folkestone 42

FULL-BACK Seyhan Fell celebrated his return to the side with six conversions as Folkestone prepared for Saturday's showdown against Charlton Park with a friendly win against Sheppey.

Though Folkestone rested several first-team regulars on Saturday, they were too strong for Kent 1 side Sheppey.

Folkestone opened the scoring when James Woolford powered over the line with Fell adding the conversion. Sheppey quickly levelled the scores at 7-7. Then Folkestone's Ben Brooks accelerated past three defenders to score with Fell adding the conversion. Sheppey reduced the arrears to 14-12 before Jonny Morton went over for the visitors. After adding the conversion, Fell went on a superb solo try then added the conversion to make the score 28-12. Luke Simpson increased Folkestone's lead and another Fell conversion made the half-time score 35-12. Sheppey scored early in the second-half, but Fell completed his sixth conversion with a penalty try, before the Islanders scored late on.

## Keep up-to-date with live updates

DON'T forget to follow your side's progress with Kent Football Live this weekend.

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Our featured games this weekend are Maidstone United v Burgess Hill Town in the FA Trophy and Boreham Wood v Ebbsfleet United in Conference South.

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BRACING: Scott Porter gets a soaking from his squad (left) and (right) Reachfields, the scene for Saturday's crucial FA Cup qualifying home tie against Staines



# Porter keeps cards close to his chest for cup tie

## FOOTBALL

■ BY TOM HOWARD AND TONY HUDD

Hythe Town 1

Thompson 25

Corinthian 0



HYPHE manager Scott Porter made no apologies for focusing his attention firmly on this weekend's lucrative FA Cup fourth round qualifying home tie against Conference South side Staines Town.

With a £30,000 jackpot in prize money awaiting Saturday's winners, any spies from Staines hoping to gain a tactical insight into how Hythe will play will have left Reachfields sorely disappointed as Porter rested nine players for this Kent Senior Trophy first round win.

Porter said afterwards: "No disrespect to the Kent Senior Trophy, or Corinthian Football Club, but Hythe is buzzing with talk of the FA Cup. It dominates everything."

"I made up my mind as soon as we got through that I would rest players in preparation for the Cup tie and have no regrets."

"Of course we want to progress in the Senior

Trophy, but right now the FA Cup is the priority. If anyone was here from Staines, they would have learned absolutely nothing."

"If we can reach the FA Cup first round proper and draw a League club, the financial benefits would really set Hythe up."

Porter reported no injuries following Saturday's tie, which they won at a canter. The outcome was settled in the 25th minute when Craig Thompson won the game with a 20-yard

volley that gave the Corinthian goalkeeper no chance.

Debut-making Dan Cook, signed in midweek from Lordswood, went close to crowning his debut with a goal as his shot struck a post.

"We could have won by more but the main thing is that nobody has picked up injuries, which is the main consideration," Porter added.

Town chairman Paul Markland says the game is set to be the biggest in the club's recent history and is expecting around 500 supporters to descend on Reachfields.

He said: "Everyone is excited by the game and we're quietly confident about it. We know we are not going to win the FA Cup, but to have the chance to reach the first round and be the minnows of four Kent clubs at this stage of the competition is a great achievement."

"I think there will be a great atmosphere. When we played Dover in the FA Cup a few years ago there was a good atmosphere and I believe Staines are going to bring a couple of coach-loads down."

# Penalty sparks Chelmsford fight back as Whites implode

## FOOTBALL

BY TOM HOWARD

### Dover Athletic 2

Birchall 25, Baker 40

### Chelmsford City 3

Rainford 45 pen, 83, Edmans 63

DOVER Athletic boss Martin Hayes says his players owe the supporters a performance after describing his side's defeat to Chelmsford as the worst 90 minutes of the season.

The Whites raced into a two-goal lead after 40 minutes courtesy of strikes from Adam Birchall and Harry Baker.

However, a dubious penalty converted by Dave Rainford gave Chelmsford hope and second-half goals from Robert Edmans and Rainford inflicted defeat on a Dover side reduced to ten men, after Olly Schulz was sent off.

Hayes was angered by the manner of the loss and has ordered a response from his players on Saturday in their FA Cup fourth qualifying round tie at Farnborough. The last time Dover reached the FA Cup first round was in 2002 when they lost to Oxford United.

Hayes said: "We just didn't perform and I don't know where that level of performance has come from. I thought when we went 2-0 up it flattered us and when Chelmsford scored I



Picture: SIMON HARRIS

#### Dover Athletic starting XI



Subs used: Tabiri (Wallis 64), Hunt (Charles 68)

the centre circle and drove at the City defence, beating three defenders before firing past goal-keeper James Pullen from the edge of the area.

The Whites seemed to be lifted by the goal and both Matt Fish and Birchall missed chances to extend the lead. Five minutes before the break the net bulged again, this time Birchall turned provider and Baker fired in his pass.

The game took a twist on the stroke of half-time when the linesman spotted a handball in the area and waved for a penalty to Chelmsford. Rainford made no mistake with the spot-kick and this spurred the visitors' comeback.

Dover had chances to put the game beyond doubt at the start of the second-half, but the introduction of Edmans swung the game in City's favour. The substitute made an impact within five minutes as he volleyed home from 12-yards to level the scores.

Whites substitute Jo Tabiri hit the post midway through the half, but Chelmsford had the last say with Rainford scoring seven minutes from time, moments after Schulz was dismissed.

**CHANCE:** Matt Fish missed with a second-half effort

would have taken a point judging from the way my side were playing. It was probably our worst 90 minutes so far.

"The players owe the supporters, who turned up on Saturday, a game after that performance. I don't want the players sulking, they have got to show some character now and help us win at Farnborough to move into the FA Cup first round and all the glory that surrounds it. They shouldn't need any motivation for this game."

Saturday's clash against fellow Conference South title contenders Chelmsford started so well as top scorer Birchall notched up his ninth league goal of the campaign in fine style. The former Arsenal striker received the ball in

## FOOTBALL

### Deal's unbeaten run snapped by Deres

#### Erith & Belvedere 4 Deal Town 2

DEAL Town's four-game unbeaten run came to an end against Erith & Belvedere as Derek Hares' side endured an afternoon to forget at Park View Road.

Things started badly for Deal when the Deres took the lead inside three minutes. Marcus Cassius fed Ross Cable and although his shot was partially cleared, the ball fell to Simon Osborn, who fired a low shot beyond the reach of Brad Ashmore.



BEATEN: Deal Town (left)

Allan Matthews then went close to doubling the home side's lead, but Deal were level soon after when Danny Smith's cross deceived Danny Twin and Steve O'Brien was on hand to drill the ball home.

Smith went close himself with a shot which tested Richard Stroud in the Deres goal, but the half ended with the home side back in front after Cassius raced clear and rounded Ashmore before rolling his shot in from an acute angle.

James Ellis shot over for Deal early in the second period, but the hosts kept pressing and they made it 3-1 when John Wilford's first-time shot flew past Ashmore.

Cable got himself on the scoresheet eight minutes later, collecting Osborn's pass and twisting to curl the ball home from just inside the box.

Deal did pull a goal back with 15 minutes remaining when Andy Hadden tapped home from six yards, but the visitors dropped to fourth in the Kent League as a result of the defeat. On Saturday, they host Greenwich Borough.

# Errors cost Sharks dear

## RUGBY

### Dover 18 Haywards Heath 23

PROMOTION is already starting to look like a long-shot for Dover after the Sharks slipped to their third defeat of the season at home to Haywards Heath.

Normally so strong at Crabble, Dover were outplayed by a Heath side relegated from National 3 last season as they made uncharacteristic errors throughout the game.

The home side fell behind to a Heath penalty on 14 minutes.

Too often, Dover were choosing the wrong option, although they did draw level thanks to the boot of Ben Murray, before Ricky Mackintosh chased a chip-kick and touched down to put the Sharks ahead.

Heath pressure led to a try just before half-time, but Dover fought back again when skipper Martyn Beaumont ran 60-metres to touch down for a converted try early in the second-half.

Dover's failure to spread the

ball wide cost them dear from this point as Heath added two more tries to put the game out of reach following a period of sustained pressure.

Murray's late penalty ensured the home side picked up a bonus point, but they have dropped to sixth in London 1 South and are 12 points adrift of leaders Tonbridge Juddians.

The Sharks face two crucial games over the next fortnight, with a trip to Portsmouth on Saturday followed by the visit of Chichester on October 30.

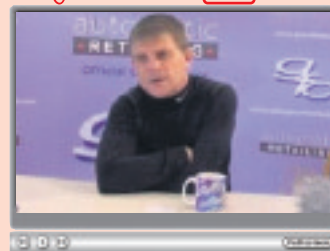


Picture: NICK DUNGAN

**HOME DEFEAT:** Dover were outplayed at Crabble

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